

Soviets accuse U.S. of reneging on accord

WASHINGTON (R) — A Soviet official accused the United States Friday of reneging on understandings reached at the Washington superpower summit by pressing the American reading of the 1972 anti-ballistic missile treaty. G.M. Kornienko said the position pushed by American negotiators at the Geneva arms control talks showed disrespect for the summit statements of President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev. "Unfortunately, as of today, we have reasons to complain about the American side and its behaviour at Geneva," Kornienko told reporters. "Not at all is the American delegation... following strictly" the instructions given by Reagan and Gorbachev at the summit, he said. Kornienko, first deputy head of the Central Committee's international department, spoke at a Soviet embassy press conference as a member of a delegation of Soviet officials in Washington to meet U.S. congressional leaders. Reagan has directed U.S. negotiators to press their Soviet counterparts to define a critical provision of the Washington communiqué dealing with the ABM treaty and the U.S. strategic defence initiative (SDI), also called "Star Wars."

Jordan Times

An independent political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية تأسست من المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية "الراي"

Jordan, PLO continue talks

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) held a third round of talks here Friday, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said. The two sides reviewed means to support the ongoing Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza and discussed the general situation in the occupied territories and the Arab-Israeli conflict. Petra said. The two sides, led by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and PLO Executive Committee member Mahmoud Abbas, also discussed the joint role Jordan and the PLO should undertake within the seven-member Arab committee, which was formed in Tunis by a meeting of Arab foreign ministers earlier this month. Petra said. The Jordanian side to the meeting included Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri, Minister of Interior Rajai Dajani, Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Marwan Dudin, Minister of Information Hani Khasawneh. The PLO side included Executive Committee members Abdullah Hourani, Abdul Razak Al Yahya and Abdul Rahim Ahmad. The two sides began the talks Wednesday and held a second round Thursday.

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Hamzeh returns

AMMAN (Petra) — Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh returned home Friday from London where he took part in an international conference on AIDS. Hamzeh also took part in an Arab Health Ministers Council meeting which followed the London conference. The council discussed means to enforce resolutions of the London conference resolutions.

Mubarak to visit Tunisia

CAIRO (R) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, on a tour of the United States and four Western European nations, will pay a one-day visit to Tunisia at the end of his trip, the semi-official newspaper Al Ahram said Friday. Mubarak is due to arrive in Tunis from Rome on Feb. 5 for talks with President Zine Al Abidine Ben Ali, the daily reported from Washington.

UNIFIL mandate gets renewal

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The Security Council unanimously approved Friday another six-month extension of the mandate of the U.N.-peacekeeping force in southern Lebanon, until July 31. The council acted at a four-minute meeting at which there were no formal speeches.

Hassan II meets U.S. Jewish leader

RABAT (R) — King Hassan of Morocco has discussed prospects for an international Middle East peace conference with the president-elect of the American Jewish Congress, Robert K. Lifton, diplomats said Friday. Lifton met the Moroccan monarch Thursday night in the presence of royal advisers Ahmad Reda Guedira and Mohammed Aouda, they said. He later told reporters the congress sought a peaceful solution to the Middle East problem and had discussed the issue with American State Department leaders before starting the tour.

U.S. Senate expected to endorse INF pact

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S.-Soviet treaty eliminating intermediate-range nuclear forces (INF) from Europe appears headed towards U.S. Senate approval, according to senators who took part in the first week of hearings on the landmark pact. Senator Alan Cranston told his colleagues on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee Thursday he expects no more than eight to 12 of the 100 senators to vote against the treaty. Cranston is an opposition Democrat from California. Senate ratification requires a vote of two-thirds, or 67, of the 100 senators.

Pope meets Ortega

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Pope John Paul II Friday received the president of Nicaragua, Daniel Ortega, and stressed the need for peace as well as the rights of people to live "under the principles of a real democracy." The pope, who received an anti-American harangue by Ortega at their last meetings five years ago, greeted the president with the usual diplomatic honours but in cool manner. At the end of their 30-minute private talks and a 10-minute exchange of gifts before photographers, the Pope expressed his wish for "peace for all Nicaraguans," and Ortega replied: "I believe we must make peace."

INSIDE

- Bonn seeks Syrian help in hostage affair, page 2
- APU calls for collective strategy to confront Israel, page 3
- Palestinian uprising — a watershed, page 4
- Beating TV at its own game, page 5
- Baldi wins pole position in Daytona motor race, page 6
- Baghdad discounts financial problems, page 7
- S. Africans threaten Angolan towns, page 8

His Majesty deplores U.S. inaction, hopes Reagan administration will seek peace before leaving office

King: Palestinian uprising changed Mideast situation

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein has said that the ongoing Palestinian protests in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza had brought about a new situation in the Arab-Israeli conflict and that Israel's arbitrary measures to quell the uprising had made peace efforts more difficult.

Speaking in an interview with the U.S. television ABC and the Washington Post newspaper, His Majesty said the anti-occupation revolt was the manifestation of a wish of the Palestinian people to "lessen their reliance on others outside to speak for them."

"Palestinians over many years relied on their Arab brethren, governments and states to help them secure their rights; 1967 and 1973 beyond that point. They might have relied also on the PLO — the sole legitimate representative of the people of Palestine. But with lack of progress towards attaining just and comprehensive peace, there came a time when they have reacted themselves to occupation and this is a new situation that we are

seeing," he said.

Asked whether he thought the tough measures that Israel has adopted against the Palestinians made peace more difficult, the King said:

"I believe it does, because my fear that violence and extremism breed violence and extremism. And we may be approaching the point in time when with the loss of hope, reason and logic, we will not find way to the hearts and minds of people in the entire area."

In the 29-minute interview, conducted Wednesday and broadcast Friday on Jordan Television, the King said the U.S. "was not and is not acting in the Arab interest of establishing just peace" in the Middle East. But



he expressed hope that the Reagan administration, which leaves office later this year, would exert efforts for settling the Middle East conflict "and leave behind something worthwhile to be remembered by in this part of the world."

Replying to a question, whether there was any "spillover" of the protests to the East Bank, the King said there was no problem "in any form or way."

(Continued on page 4)

Shultz expected to outline new U.S. moves for peace

BAHRAIN (AP) — U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz is expected to deliver a speech around Feb. 6 outlining the moves the United States will undertake towards a settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict, one of two Palestinians who met with Shultz has said.

"We were told that next week, probably around Feb. 6, he will make a major speech in which he will spell out the moves the United States will undertake in the

Shultz: U.S. will back int'l peace parley

WASHINGTON (R) — Secretary of State George Shultz said Friday the United States would do whatever it could to achieve direct negotiations between Arabs and Israelis, including backing an international peace conference on the Middle East.

Shultz, toasting Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak at a State Department luncheon, reiterated the U.S. position that direct talks is the way to achieve peace in the Middle East.

"We'll pursue any avenue to get to that point, including an international conference," he said.

region," Hanna Siniora, a Jerusalem editor, told the London-based daily newsletter Mideast Mirror in an interview conducted in Washington Thursday.

"So we have to wait for what he will say, and we hope that as Shultz promised, the United States will activate the peace process (in the Middle East) after it let it stagnate," he said.

The hope was that "political moves that will pave the way for the convocation of an international conference" would follow the summit meeting between U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev in May, Siniora said. A State Department official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said in Washington "nothing has been decided yet" when asked about the report. "We are looking intensively at what can be done, but you have to consider realities too."

Siniora, along with Faysal Abu Rahme, head of the Gaza Bar Association, had a 20-minute session with Shultz Wednesday. Siniora later told reporters that the two Palestinians called for the formation of an international peace force to end violence in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

He said this proposal was contained in a letter they handed to

(Continued on page 4)

Reagan refuses to make specific Mideast pledge

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — Despite lavishing praise on Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak for his fresh efforts to get Middle East peace talks moving, President Ronald Reagan is being coy about what he will do to help.

The U.S. leader, now in his last year of office, promised Mubarak a partnership in the search for peace but has not provided any details on what his contribution might be.

"Don't pin me down," Reagan told reporters at a White House banquet for the visiting Egyptian leader Thursday.

"It fits into the philosophy I believe in. As long as you're talking to one another instead of at one another, it's productive," Reagan said.

U.S. officials said the next American step would be to discuss Mubarak's ideas on peace talks.

One senior official, who asked not to be identified, said Reagan had applauded Mubarak's central idea of a six-month moratorium on violence in the Israeli-occupied territories in return for a freeze in Israeli settlement of the occupied lands.

The Egyptian leader also wants U.S. help in persuading Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir to agree to attend an international peace conference.

Washington supports that too, but officials hold out little hope

Security Council in discord

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Britain made a new bid Friday to break a Security Council stalemate on the question of protecting Palestinian civilians in the Israeli-occupied territories.

Because Israel opposes U.N. intervention, any move to send U.N. observers to the West Bank and Gaza Strip to monitor Israeli actions seemed likely to draw a United States veto.

The council again deferred public debate on the problem Friday amid disagreement on the terms of a formal resolution to deal with the situation.

Crispin Tickell, the British delegate who is the council president for January, summoned members to an informal private meeting in the afternoon after circulating a text of a suggested compromise resolution.

The compromise would have the council call on Israel — rather than "demand" — to accept de jure (by right) the applicability of the fourth Geneva convention to the Palestinian and other Arab territories it has occupied since 1967.

This countered a text offered by non-aligned members, who sought the despatch of U.N. observers to the area and a demand by the council that Israel apply as law the provisions of the Geneva convention.

that Shamir would drop his ardent opposition to a conference that would lead to direct Arab-Israeli peace talks.

The officials, however, showed no interest in another Mubarak idea, for some kind of international presence in the occupied territories to protect Palestinians.

"All in all, Mubarak has provided a basis for a fresh crack at an international problem and you can bet that we'll do all we can to see if it can be made productive," one said.

Reagan and Secretary of State George Shultz have been criticised both in the Middle East and at home for what is widely perceived as a desultory effort to get peace talks started.

Reagan showed particular sensitivity to Mubarak's appeal for him not to allow political campaigns for the November U.S. presidential election to distract him from peace efforts.

"The fact that 1988 is an election year in the United States will not reduce our commitment to continuing our efforts on behalf of Middle East peace," he said in written replies to questions posed by the Egyptian newspaper Al Ahram.

"Recent events in the West Bank and Gaza make it clear that the status quo is unacceptable," Reagan said in reference to seven

(Continued on page 3)

Arabs keep up anti-occupation revolt amid arrests, beatings

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Palestinian protesters staged anti-Israeli demonstrations after Friday prayers at the Haram Al Sharif complex and at least six Arabs were arrested, according to Arab and international agency dispatches.

In the seventh week of the ongoing Palestinian uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza, Palestinian demonstrators also confronted Israeli soldiers in several areas of the occupied territories. Palestinians and a U.N. worker said that Israeli soldiers stormed a refugee camp and beat up more than 60 Arabs overnight.

Israel Radio reported that Secretary of State George P. Shultz telephoned Shamir to protest the beating of three Americans by Israeli soldiers.

A Shamir aide denied the report, while U.S. embassy officials refused comment. The three U.S. citizens, West Bank residents, have filed a complaint with U.S. consulate officials.

In Jerusalem, an estimated 600 policemen turned out in the walled Old City to forestall any repeat of clashes two weeks ago at Islam's third holiest site.

About 5,000 worshippers prayed at Al Aqsa Mosque and staged a protest.

The protesters brandished a Palestinian flag and chanted religious and nationalist slogans. They dispersed peacefully after about 30 minutes but at least six were arrested, reports said.

The Israeli government announced a series of small steps — the release of 100 prisoners in the Gaza Strip, the jailing of soldiers for excessive beating.

steps to ease Palestinian family reunification, and an increase in building and work permits — but these gestures did not appear to have any serious impact on protests.

Local leaders in the Gaza Strip who met Israel's southern commander, General Yitzhak Mordechai, said he promised that most if not all of the hundreds of prisoners arrested during the uprising would be released once complete calm returned.

Israeli troops have shot at least 39 Palestinians and wounded at least 600 by gunfire and beatings in the last seven weeks.

In Gaza City, soldiers and armoured personnel carriers took up positions in central Palestine Square and near mosques to prevent clashes after prayers.

(Continued on page 4)

Jordan urges Arab economic dialogue to counter exploitation

From Salameh Ne'matt in Davos, Switzerland

JORDAN Friday called for reactivating inter-regional dialogue in the Arab World with the aim of identifying areas for economic integration that are being exploited by major industrial nations.

His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, who is attending the 1988 World Economic Forum conference, told a gathering of participants in the one-week event Friday that the private sector could join hands with the public sector towards rechanneling investments to the South-West Asia region in the wake of the October stock market crash and turbulence in the world's financial markets.

He told the gathering, which included Algerian Finance Minister Abdul Aziz Khelef and Jordanian and Arab participants, that economic decision-making in the Arab World lacked a common reference base that is needed as the first step towards Arab integration.

Speaking at a lunch hosted in his honour by Abbas Gokal, chairman of Gulf International group of companies, the Crown Prince underlined the import-



ance of meetings such as the World Economic Forum as an opportunity for active Arab participation. He said the importance lies in the fact that "deliberations here reflect directly or indirectly on the Arab arena."

The Algerian finance minister is now head of the eight-member Arab experts' committee that was met last month in Amman (The panel's next meeting will be on Feb. 2).

"We are in need of an Arab voice at this stage of developments in the global economy,"

the Crown Prince said Thursday.

Citing examples of exploitation by industrialised nations, Prince Hassan said that "one of our worst enemies in the United States is the phosphates and potash lobby."

"They are taking a hostile stance against a small country like Jordan, with its limited resources," he declared. He said these lobbies had embarked on their "hostile stands" only after a comprehensive survey of information.

Prince Hassan said that such forces in developed countries were obstructing the process of the activation of regional integration in South-West Asia.

"I hope that we, as Arabs, will be able to establish a dialogue during such conferences, and to feel our Arab entity as private sector and decision makers," the Crown Prince said.

Prince Hassan met with Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal later Friday. Thursday night, he met with former Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone.

(Continued on page 4)

4 reported killed in Iraqi raids on shipping

BAHRAIN (AP) — As many as four seamen were reported Friday to have been killed in Iraq's latest raids on Iranian oil shipping in the Gulf, raising the death toll for the month to 12. Iraq announced a new tanker raid Friday.

Lloyd's shipping intelligence unit, based in London, said a British captain and Filipino engineer aboard a salvage tug were among the victims, but later backtracked on this after the tug's owners in Singapore reportedly denied it.

The two were said by Gulf-based shipping executives to have been killed Wednesday when an Iraqi aircraft attacked the tugboat Salverve as it tended the tanker Coral Cape, hit in another attack nine hours earlier.

Lloyds quoted Kappa Maritime, the London-based firm that manages the Cypriot-flag tanker, as saying two South Koreans were killed aboard the Coral Cape.

Meanwhile, the Iraqi News Agency said Iraqi warplanes struck another "large naval target," meaning a tanker, just before dawn Friday.

There was no independent confirmation of the latest attack. Iraq has now claimed about 15 attacks since the turn of the year, of which six have been verified by Gulf-based shipping salvage executives or other sources.

In Rome, Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati described as "positive," the United Nations' effort to find a peace settlement in the Iran-Iraq conflict, and hinted at a mediation role for Gulf states.

Balladur ends visit with pledge to boost French efforts for peace

By Sa'd G. Hattar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — French Deputy Premier and Minister of Finance Edouard Balladur Friday wound up a three-day visit to Jordan after pledging to step up his country's efforts towards holding an international Middle East peace conference and bringing about a peaceful settlement to the Iran-Iraq war.

The French minister also said his country was increasing its humanitarian aid to Palestinian people in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip in addition to French assistance through international organisations.

In a press conference Thursday, Balladur said: "Our aid to the occupied territories more than doubled last year touching the region of 10 million French francs (\$1.8 million)." He said France was ready to increase the figure in future which is channelled through the French consulate in Jerusalem.

Balladur also said France was identifying ways and means to secure optimum benefits of joint Jordanian-French trade and economic protocols.

During his stay in Amman, Balladur delivered a message from French Premier Jacques

Chirac to His Majesty King Hussein. The King and other officials reviewed with Balladur the current situation in the region and means of boosting bilateral relations. Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Field Marshal Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker and Minister of Finance Hanna Odeh met with Balladur Thursday.

Balladur told the press conference both sides agreed to give a new push to bilateral relations by studying the prospects of setting up a joint banking enterprise to help finance and carry out joint ventures.

Balladur said he agreed with the Jordanian officials to form an ad hoc committee to meet periodically to study and follow up on projects of mutual interest.

He said King Hussein accepted an invitation to visit Paris and agreed to continue dialogue with French officials on all issues.

On the French stand on the ongoing Palestinian uprising and whether France would consider any action against Israel, Balladur indicated that France favoured international pressure including economic sanctions against the Jewish state but added that Paris was not bound to take

(Continued on page 3)

PLO factions ponder pros and cons of U.S. contacts

From Lamis K. Andoni in Tunis

A MEETING between U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and two Palestinian personalities from the Israeli-occupied territories has drawn mixed reactions from within the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

The differences, which did not amount to any serious internal divisions, revolved around two points concerning the PLO's strategy towards the ongoing Palestinian uprising in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

The first point involved the PLO's stand on contacts between Palestinians in the occupied territories and American officials. Judging by information available to the Jordan Times, Jerusalem journalist Hanna Siniora and Gaza lawyer Faysal Abu Rahme "consulted with senior PLO officials" before leaving the occupied territories for Wednesday's Washington meeting with Shultz, according to informed sources. The two men "were given the green light" from top-level officials a few hours before their departure, the

secretary of state to the occupied territories. The boycott suggestion followed the American decision to close down the PLO's information office in Washington.

To meet or not to

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PLO supporters complied and some officials here still believe that a boycott of meetings with American officials should have continued.

But, according to sources here, some Fatah officials believed that there was no harm in "authorising the meeting, provided that both men adhered to the major Palestinian demands; an American recognition of the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and the convening of an international peace conference under the auspices of the United Nations with the participation of the PLO."

But the criticism that Wednesday's meeting provided had nothing to do with the issues discussed or the position expressed by Siniora and Abu Rahme.

In the view of the DFLP, the

Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), the Communist Party and even some Fatah officials, the U.S. had arranged the meeting to absorb "the Palestinian anger and consequently abort the uprising."

This position reflected a general feeling here that despite recent American "criticism" of Israeli practices Washington's "support of Israel and hostility towards the Palestinian people have not undergone any substantial change."

Even officials who supported the Washington meeting have not expressed any hope that it would affect the American position. "The aim of the meeting was to put Washington face-to-face with its responsibility and to officially convey the demands of the Palestinian uprising."

Palestinian demands

During the meeting Siniora and Abu Rahme conveyed two memorandums to Shultz. The first brief memorandum,

(Continued on page 3)

Dr. A. KAREEM AL-ZAKA

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MB, Ch, B. D.C.H. M.R.C.P. in Paed/London
Consultant Paediatrician at King Hussein Medical Centre and previously at the hospital for sick children/ Great Ormond Street/ London.
Announces the opening of his clinic
Jabal Amman, Ibn Khaldun Street, Near Al Khaldi Hospital, Facing Rawhi Pharmacy.
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هذه احدى احوال

Shi'ite cleric says all hostages are alive

Bonn asks Syria for help in hostage affair

BONN, West Germany (Agencies) — West Germany has appealed to Syria for help in winning the release of a West German man kidnapped in Beirut this week, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said Friday.

Spokesman Juergen Chrobog said Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher made the appeal during a telephone conversation with Syria's vice-president late Thursday.

The Syrian official, Abdul Halim Khaddam, said his country would "do all it could to help win the release of the hostage," Chrobog told reporters.

Genscher had already appealed to Iran for help in West Germany's latest hostage affair, and received a similar promise of support.

Ralph Rudolf Schray was kidnapped in Syrian-controlled mainly Muslim west Beirut Wednesday, becoming the second West German citizen now held hostage in Lebanon.

The 30-year-old Schray's mother is Lebanese and his father is a West German. Schray is also married to a Lebanese woman and has spent most of his life in Lebanon.

Bonn's chief government spokesman, Friedhelm Ost, said Friday that West German authorities had "no new information" regarding the kidnapping or those who were responsible for it.

On Thursday, the government said there was "no evidence" that Schray's kidnapping was aimed at winning the release of a TWA hijack suspect and his brother

obtained information that Waite had been killed.

Moussa quoted a Lebanese Shi'ite informant as telling him that the kidnappers murdered Waite because they thought a heart pacemaker he had was an electronic device sending out signals to locate his hideout.

"We have information that the hostages are all alive, except for one Frenchman whose captors had said they had killed him. I am not sure about his fate," Shamseddin said.

He was referring to research analyst Michel Saurat, who was kidnapped in west Beirut on May 22, 1985. Islamic Jihad had claimed responsibility for his abduction.

The group said on March 5, 1986 that it had "executed" Saurat.

"I am sure all the others are alive and well... and they will return to their families, God willing," Shamseddin said.

"Efforts persist behind the scenes to resolve this problem. We look forward to the day when this tragedy is over once and for all," Shamseddin said, without elaboration.

A top militia source said Friday pro-Iranian militants masterminded the kidnapping of Schray to pressure Bonn into freeing two Lebanese Shi'ites without Tehran's knowledge or approval.

"The Iranians are not involved in this kidnapping. They have no interest at the moment as they are currently working on improving ties with West Germany," the source told Reuters.

Cyprus jails 2 for plot to kill Britons

LIMASSOL, Cyprus (R) — Two men who plotted to kill servicemen and other Britons in Cyprus were jailed Friday for a rifle-and-grenade attack on a British army corporal and a teenage girl.

Rasheed Abdullah Salem, 23, was jailed for nine years and Saleh Ali Al Hamad, 25, for seven for conspiracy to kill, attempted murder and carrying firearms and explosives.

The two, who carried Bahraini passports, had pleaded not guilty. An Interior Ministry official in Bahrain was earlier reported to have said the passports were forged.

Corporal John Bailey, 35, and 15-year-old Linda Wilkinson were wounded last April when gunmen in a car chased their landrover for four miles (six kilometers) between two British military bases on the island.

Bailey, hit by bullet fragments as he used an empty horse trailer he was towing to shield them, was decorated for bravery.

Limassol district court, which found the two guilty on Thursday, described the attack as "cowardly and cold-blooded."

"The fact that the two victims are still alive is due only to their good fortune and to the cool reaction of (Bailey)....," it said in its verdict.

The prosecution said the attackers had conspired to kill Britons, preferably people connected with the British bases at Dhekelia in the east of Cyprus and Episkopi-Akrotiri on the south coast.

Security sources said Salem had been a suspect in an August 1986 rocket, mortar and rifle attack on Akrotiri Air Base in which the wives of two British servicemen were wounded.

Papandreou leaves for talks with Ozal

ATHENS (R) — Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou left Athens Friday for Davos, Switzerland, where he is due to meet Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal at the weekend.

Both leaders, who are attending an international economic seminar, are expected to deal with two main problems — disputed rights in the Aegean Sea and the continued occupation of northern Cyprus by Turkish troops.

The Athens newspaper Kathimerini said the Greek side would press for the Aegean question to go to the International Court of Justice in The Hague while Turkey would call for a wider dialogue to include all outstanding problems.

The two North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) countries are close to war last March over the Aegean dispute but relations have since improved following an exchange of messages between Papandreou and Ozal.

U.S. religious leaders call for Mideast peace

WASHINGTON (J.T.) — A group of over 500 prominent U.S. Muslim, Christian and Jewish religious and political leaders have called for peace in the Middle East.

At the end of a seminar organized by the U.S. Interreligious Committee for Peace in the Middle East — which was addressed by the Jordan Times Chief Editor Rami Khouri, prominent Palestinians Hanna Siniara and Fayed Abu Rahmeh and others from Egypt and Israel — the participants called for an international conference for peace in the Middle East.

Herebelow is the full text of the statement launched by the committee in Washington D.C., Wednesday.

"Peace in the Middle East is essential for the future of Israel, for the Palestinians and Arab states, and for the whole world. But the promise of peace remains unfulfilled. There is daily suffering and danger of greater violence and another war if there is no peace.

"We Jews, Christians and Muslims say — In the name of God, who is compassionate and just — it is time for peace. We are motivated by our deepest religious convictions. Working for peace is not optional. It is fundamental to our faith.

"It is time to end the Arab-Israeli-Palestinian conflict. It is time for all parties to stop terror and violence. Peace cannot be achieved by force. It can only be achieved by negotiations. It is time for peace.

"We call upon our own United States government to make peace a priority and use diplomacy to promote negotiations for a just peace

based on the following:

"Israel's right to secure borders and peace with her neighbours, as an expression of the Jewish people's right of self-determination. The principles embodied in U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 provide an agreed upon formula to achieve security and peace for all states in the area in exchange for withdrawal from territories occupied in the 1967 war.

The Palestinian people's right of self-determination, including the right to choose their own independent leadership, is equally essential to peace. Evidence that Palestinians are willing to exercise their right of self-determination in the West Bank and Gaza alongside Israel, encourages prospects for peace.

The need for an international conference for peace, the complexity of the conflict and important interests of many countries in the Middle East require an international conference, involving all parties in the conflict as well as the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council.

Jerusalem is of vital significance to Israelis and Palestinians, to Jews, Christians and Muslims. We believe negotiations, rather than unilateral action, can help assure that Jerusalem will be a city of peace.

PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST IS POSSIBLE.
NOW IS THE TIME FOR PEACE

Prince Saud in Moscow

MOSCOW (R) — Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal arrived in Moscow for a visit to boost ties between staunchly conservative Saudi Arabia and the Soviet Union, two countries which have no diplomatic relations.

Soviet First Deputy Foreign Minister Yuri Vorontsov greeted the prince after he arrived on a late-evening flight, TASS reported.

Prince Saud told the Soviet News Agency he was carrying a message for the Kremlin from King Fahd about the Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied Arab territories and a message on

the Iran-Iraq war. Details of the messages were not revealed.

The Saudi minister was last in Moscow in December 1982 as a member of a seven-man Arab League delegation. The brief meeting he had at that time with then Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko was the highest level contact in Moscow between the two countries.

Moscow has made clear it would like to upgrade ties with Saudi Arabia.

TASS quoted the prince as saying that Arab countries, facing a range of serious problems, found discussion with the Soviet Union important and fruitful.

Saudi Arabia halts import of Iranian goods via Dubai

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — Saudi Arabia was reported Friday to have halted imports of Iranian goods from this major Gulf port in what appeared to be a boycott of Iran.

The report touched off speculation that Saudi Arabia might have started a political drive against Iran till it ends a 7-year-old war with Iraq.

The Dubai-based newspaper Khaleej Times, in a front-page report, quoted several Gulf exporters as saying trucks carrying Iranian merchandise were being turned back from the Saudi border.

Others said they had been told by their Saudi counterparts not to send Iranian foodstuffs any more, the paper said.

The Khaleej Times said Dubai businessmen who have a major role in the trans-shipment of Iranian goods to Saudi Arabia were forewarned about the move some days ago, but were not advised as to the reasons behind it.

"We were actually expecting the embargo to go into effect from February. We put parties in Saudi Arabia had warned several days ago about this possibility," G.H. Dana of Haji Malek Zadeh Fruits and General Merchants of the Hamiya Market told Khaleej Times.

Businessmen confirmed the measure to the Associated Press, saying that while Saudi Arabia had been placing a number of

restrictions on imports recently, this was the first time it named a country whose produce would be banned from entry apart from products traditionally boycotted if related to Israel or South Africa.

Speaking on condition they not be named, the businessmen said they had no indication as to whether other commodities shipped to Saudi Arabia via Dubai would also be banned.

They had no political guidelines, but many thought that the kingdom was making its stance clear that it will not cooperate with Iran in any field until it ends its war with Iraq.

The kingdom, chairman of the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) alliance which also groups the United Arab Emirates, Kuwait, Bahrain, Oman and Qatar, is pressing the world community to "take steps" to repress Iran to drop its objection to peace with Iraq.

Spillovers of the protracted war have been menacing for the GCC countries, with Iran accusing Saudi Arabia and Kuwait of aiding its war foe.

Relations between Iran and Saudi Arabia also plummeted last July when Iranian pilgrims staged political demonstrations in the Muslim Holy City of Mecca during the pilgrimage season, leading to clashes with Saudi police in which hundreds were killed and injured.

Poll shows revolt has little impact on Israeli voters

TEL AVIV (R) — An opinion poll published Friday suggested that nearly two months of Palestinian unrest in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip have hardly affected Israeli voters' political preferences.

The poll conducted over the past week by the mass-circulation Yedioth Ahronoth showed a small swing away from Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's Likud Bloc to extreme-right parties that favour Israeli annexation of the occupied territories or the expulsion of Arabs.

But the balance of power between left and right remained virtually unchanged, suggesting next November's general election could end in stalemate and the formation of another national unity government.

Asked how the unrest, in which troops killed 39 Palestinians and wounded more than 600, had affected their views, 38 per cent said they now favoured tougher measures, 28 per cent were more in favour of compromise and 32 per cent said their views were unchanged. Two per cent did not reply.

Small leftist and Communist parties maintained their total of 14, while Israel's religious parties, which usually vote with the right in parliament, would keep their nine seats, the poll showed.

Asked if they believed reports about the unrest by the Israeli army spokesman, 85 per cent said "yes" and 13 per cent said "no". The rest declined comment.

Another Israeli opinion pollster, Hanoch Smith, told Reuters: "In my experience, very radical events don't produce voter swings in Israel. I would expect at most a tiny shift to the right this time."

Meese allegedly told of plan to bribe top Israeli official

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A memo to Attorney General Edwin Meese III from a longtime friend dated a plan to bribe a top Israeli official to keep Israel from interfering with a \$1-billion Iraqi oil pipeline project, it was reported.

Independent counsel James C. McKay, who is investigating Meese, is focusing his probe on the memo, allegedly written in 1985, the Los Angeles Times reported Friday.

The Times, citing sources familiar with the Meese investigation, said it wasn't clear if the attorney general or his friend and former lawyer, E. Robert Walker, violated any laws in connection with the alleged payoff plan.

The Foreign Corrupt Practices Act bars U.S. citizens from bribing foreign officials. However, it wasn't known if any payment to an Israeli official was actually made or attempted.

Lawyers representing Meese said "no actual or potential violation of law was brought to Mr. Meese's attention during his limited participation in discussions regarding the project."

Sources familiar with McKay's investigation called the memo the most serious allegation brought against Meese thus far. Sources in the Justice Department said even if Meese broke no laws he could be forced to resign if it is proved he took no action upon learning of a bribery plot.

Walker's attorney, George G. Walker, said, "I have absolutely no comment." Walker also declined to say whether he was aware of the memo.

Yossi Gal, a spokesman for the Israeli embassy in Washington, D.C., called the reported memo "a wild fantasy that is not even worthy of comment."

Brazil assailed for intended arms sale to Libya

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States has criticised Brazilian Foreign Minister Roberto Abreu Sodre for suggesting there was no harm in Brazil selling billions of dollars of weapons to Libya.

The State Department said it found regrettable the minister's remarks to reporters in Brasilia Tuesday that the sales could go ahead because they involved arms that were purely defensive in nature.

"The United States reaffirms its position that sales of weapons of any kind to (Libyan leader Muammar) Qadhafi are inappropriate because of his sup-

port for international terrorism, subversion and aggression," department spokesman Charles Redman said.

Sodre said Brazil, which was a major supplier of weapons to Libya in the late 1970s and early 1980s, could sell as much as \$2 billion worth of arms to Libya.

Arms industry sources in Brazil said a Libyan military delegation which visited the country this month had expressed interest in buying rockets and missiles from the state-owned company Orbita.

Redman told reporters the United States did not regard such weapons as defensive and that Libya had used them in its war

Deputy Secretary of State John Whitehead expressed U.S. concern at the intended sales last Friday at a meeting with Brazil's ambassador to Washington.

Many U.S. arms experts say Brazil, which last year had the developing world's largest foreign debt at about \$110 billion, ranks among the world's top five arms exporters, along with the United States, Soviet Union, Britain and France.

Brazil suspended weapons sales to Libya in 1983 after four Libyan cargo planes were caught on Brazilian territory laden with a clandestine shipment of East Bloc arms for Nicaragua.

Egyptian court acquits sabotage suspects

CAIRO (AP) — A supreme state security court has acquitted four young men of trying to overthrow the government and setting fire to several video rental clubs, a Cairo newspaper said.

Daily newspaper Al-Ahram, in its early Friday edition, said Judge Mohammed Hafez had acquitted the defendants because the prosecution was unable to prove the charges.

The prosecution had accused

the four of forming an anti-government organisation which called for the overthrow of the government and setting fire to several video rental clubs and owning explosives with the intent of destabilising public security.

The men are Osama Mohammad Ahmad, 20, Atef Mohammad Badawi, 21, Eid Mohammad Abdallah, 21, all university students. The fourth defendant,

Rasafat Mohammad Abdul Karim was being tried in absentia.

In 1986, the prosecution charged more than 85 Muslim fundamentalists with charges ranging from calling for a holy war to replace the government to firebombing video clubs, cinema houses and a liquor store.

In March 1987, 13 were acquitted of attempting to overthrow the government and setting fire to a public bar.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 73111-19

24:00

Close Down

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30	Korean
15:50	Programme Review
16:00	Children's programme
16:30	The Bunny
16:40	Eureka
16:50	How Things Work
17:00	Trips
17:30	Winter Olympic Games
17:50	Arabic series
18:00	Message from Iraq
18:15	Family programme
18:30	Programme review
18:45	News in Arabic
19:00	Arabic series
19:15	Local historical seminar
19:30	Varieties
19:45	News Summary in Arabic
20:00	Close down

PROGRAMME TWO

17:45	La gerlante
18:00	News in French
18:15	French varieties: Un Ob de plus
18:30	News in Hebrew
18:45	Varieties
19:00	News in Arabic
19:15	Married with Children (comedy)
19:30	Magazine Zero One
19:45	Saturday Variety Show
20:00	News in English
20:15	Feature film: "Blues Brothers"
20:30	Close down

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM
partly on 850 KHz, SW
Tel: 77411-19

07:00	Morning Show
07:30	News
08:00	Morning Show
08:30	News Summary
08:45	Morning Show Contd.
09:00	News Summary
09:15	Hillsville: The Story of Motown
09:30	News
09:45	Varieties
10:00	News Summary
10:15	Pop Session
10:30	News Summary
10:45	Pop Session
11:00	News Bulletin
11:15	Jordan Weekly
11:30	Concert Hour
11:45	News Summary
12:00	Instruments/Old favourites
12:15	Special Feature
12:30	Good Old Days
12:45	News
13:00	Pop Top Ten
13:15	News
13:30	News/Music/Star
13:45	Date with a Star
14:00	Young Sound
14:15	Discovering Music
14:30	Pop of the Week
14:45	Country Music
15:00	Classical Music

BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1223 KHz

06:00 News 06:30 Here's Humph
06:45 Reflections 06:55 Financial
Special 07:00 World News 07:30 24 Hours:
News Summary 07:30 Personal View
07:45 The World Today 08:00 News
Special 08:30 Meridian 09:30 World News
09:30 24 Hours: News Summary 09:30
From the Weeklies 09:45 Network UK
09:50 World News Summary: Her's
10:15 A Jolly Good Show 11:00 World
News 11:00 British Press Review 11:15
The World Today 11:30 Financial
News; Sports Roundup 11:45 Personal
View 12:00 News Summary: Her's
Humph 12:15 Letter from America
12:30 People and Politics 12:30 About
Britain 13:15 Chain Reaction 13:30
Meridian 14:00 Radio Newsweek 14:15
Music for the Sun King 14:45 Good
Books 15:00 Album Time 15:09
Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
View 15:00 News Summary: 15:05 Saturday
Special 16:00 News Summary; Saturday
Special 16:30 Sportsworld 17:00
Newsweek 17:15 Sportsworld 17:30
World News 18:00 Commentary 18:15
Sportsworld 18:45 Sports Round-up
19:00 News Summary; Play: Cross
Purpose 20:30 Musical Masters of the
Baroque 21:00 The Enemy Within
21:30 World Music 22:30 Meridian
23:00 News Summary; Health Matters
23:15 Music for a While 23:30 People
and Politics 24:00 World News 01:00
Commentary 01:30 Anything Goes

VOICE OF AMERICA

MW 1260 & SW 7200, 9565,
11740, 11925 and 15210 KHz

06:00 News 06:10 VOA Morning 07:00
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Murderers hanged

AMMAN (J.T.) — Two men sentenced to death by a military court for the July 1987 murder of a money-changer in Amman have been executed by hanging at Al Mahatta prison.

An official announcement said that the two criminals, Nasser Mohammad Ali, 28, and Ahmad Salim Jumaa, 22, were hanged at dawn in accordance with the court sentence issued on Jan. 10, 1988.

A third man, Ahmad Shtawi, 24, who was an accomplice to the

murder of Mohieddin Al Bashid, 22, in Jabal Hussein was given a sentence of life imprisonment with hard labour.

The three were arrested last month, and the Public Security Department (PSD) said that they confessed to the killing and the armed robbery of nearly JD 100,000 in Jordanian and foreign currency.

The court sentence had been ratified by the military governor and approved by a Royal Decree.

WHO team to study prospect of regional AIDS centre here

AMMAN (J.T.) — A delegation from the World Health Organisation (WHO) is due here in February to discuss the prospect of setting up a regional centre in Amman for combating AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome), according to a Ministry of Health spokesman Friday.

The spokesman told the Jordan Times that the projected centre would serve as an information centre focused on spreading awareness in the region on protection against AIDS.

Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh, currently attending an international conference on AIDS in

London, delivered an address to the conference in which he outlined the AIDS situation in Jordan and measures being taken to prevent the spread of the disease.

According to official figures, three Jordanians have so far died of the disease and several other people living in the Kingdom are AIDS carriers.

The three-day conference in London has been organised by the British government in cooperation with the WHO with the objective of developing a worldwide strategy for combating AIDS.

Queen Noor inspects conditions, services in Jordan Valley region

SOUTH SHUNEH (J.T.) — Her Majesty Queen Noor Thursday made a tour of the Jordan Valley region, where she observed living conditions, inspected tourist centres and took part in a clean-up campaign.

Accompanied by Balqa governor, Mijhem Kreisha, the Director of the Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF) In'am Al Mufi and other officials, the Queen first called at Wadi Shu'eb public park and discussed with local officials the prospect of developing the park into a major tourist centre.

The Queen inspected areas where people on outings had left litter that damaged the environment. She later helped boy scouts in their campaign to remove the litter from areas frequented by picnickers.

Queen Noor's tour took her to the town of Sweimeh near the Dead Sea, where she studied its tourist potential and services that could be offered to visitors by the Jordan Valley Authority, the Ministry of Tourism and other government organisations.

At Sweimeh, she entered a home and talked to local residents from whom she heard de-



Her Majesty Queen Noor, during a tour of the Jordan Valley Thursday, assists boy scouts in a clean-up campaign aimed at ridding the tourist areas of the valley region from harmful litter (Petra photo).

mands for improved local services, and for development in the region in general.

According to Mufti, Sweimeh is one of the areas where NHF-sponsored social community projects will be implemented.

Unofficial estimates put the weekly number of visitors to the Jordan Valley region during the holidays and on Friday at 74,000, mostly coming from Amman and leaving behind heaps of litter.

APU urges collective Arab strategy to confront Israel

TUNIS (Petra) — The Arab Parliamentary Union (APU) has wound up its meetings in Tunis by urging Arab states to work out a collective strategy to confront Israeli threat, and to force Israel to comply with the will of the international community and abide by U.N. Security Council resolutions calling for the establishment of peace in the Middle East.

Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Akel Al Fayez, who represented Jordan at the meeting, which concluded Thursday, said that the Arab parliamentarians supported the convening of an international conference on peace in the Middle East. He said that they had set up a committee to hold contacts with European parliaments in order to enlist their help in exerting pressure on the United States to accept the idea of the conference.

The meeting urged Arab and foreign governments to pressure Israel to end its aggression

against the Arab World, and to support the steadfastness of the Palestinians in their uprising against Israel's oppression, as well as in their struggle to regain their legitimate rights, Fayez said.

The meeting also called on Arab countries to abstain from taking any unilateral steps in dealing with the Arab-Israeli conflict, and to adhere firmly to the demand of total Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab lands, the Lower House speaker added.

The parliamentarians, he said, urged Arab states to implement

the resolutions of the Nov. 8-11 extraordinary Arab summit in Amman and of the Jerusalem Committee.

The meeting also condemned Iran for its occupation of Iraqi territory and its continued aggression against Iraq, after Iraq's acceptance of U.N. Security Council Resolution 598 to end the Gulf conflict, Fayez noted.

He said that the APU voiced total support for Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and other Gulf states in confronting Iranian threats.

The meeting decided to set up delegations to contact world parliaments in order to urge their countries to cease supplying arms to Iran, the speaker added.

The APU meeting, Fayez said, urged Arab countries to bolster their cooperation with African states and supported resolutions taken by the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) with regard to the situation in South Africa.

Jordan receives message from six nation initiative on nuclear threat

AMMAN — Three ambassadors to Jordan — from Greece, India and Sweden — have presented a message to the Jordanian government from the so-called six nation initiative, urging all nations to work for stopping the threat of a nuclear holocaust.

The message, contained in the Stockholm Declaration of Jan. 21, states that:

"A handful of nations have acquired the capability of destroying not only one another but all others as well. Their war machines could terminate civilisation and all life on earth.

"No nation has the right to use such instruments of war. And what thus is morally wrong should also be explicitly prohibited by international law through a binding international agreement.

"All states have the responsibility to uphold the rule of law in international relations.

"The non-nuclear states have a legitimate interest in the abolition of these awesome weapons. We demand it. We owe it not only to ourselves but also to future generations." Foreign Ministry

Secretary General Nabih Al Nimr received the message from Mr. Hannibal Vellidias of Greece, Mr. Gurcharan Singh of India and Mr. Lars Loennback of Sweden, who were instructed by their governments to convey the declaration to the Jordanian government.

The six-nation initiative stems from a decision taken in 1983 by the heads of government of Argentina, Greece, India, Mexico, Sweden and Tanzania to form a group of six nations from five continents to concentrate their efforts to stop the threat of a nuclear holocaust and to work for disarmament and peace. Since then the six leaders of these countries have met many times to review the situation, to send messages to the superpowers, to the nuclear powers and other international fora to stress the need for restraint and for negotiations to contain the threat of war. The six leaders, aided by an informal planning group of advisors, have concentrated on comments on the nuclear arms race and means to stop it, and their efforts have attracted considerable attention worldwide.

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Aramex International launches new courier service to Aqaba

AMMAN (J.T.) — Aramex International Courier Company will be launching their new daily service to and from Aqaba on Feb. 1, 1988.

International Traders, as agents of Aramex International for this local door-to-door service, will use their office in downtown Amman and Aqaba for the daily pick-up and delivery of ship-

ments in both cities.

The new station is part of Aramex International's efforts to facilitate communication within the commercial and industrial sectors of Amman and Aqaba.

This project will also serve to consolidate the company's presence in the Jordanian market as both an international and national courier.

NEWS IN BRIEF

INTERPOL chief departs

AMMAN (Petra) — Secretary-General of the International Criminal Police Organisation (INTERPOL) Raymond Edward Kendall has left Amman after ending a three-day visit to Jordan, during which he met with Public Security Department (PSD) Director Lieutenant-General Abdul Hadi Al Majali and senior PSD officers and discussed with them boosting cooperation between Jordan and INTERPOL. Before his Thursday departure Kendall also visited a number of PSD divisions, as well as archaeological and tourist sites in the Kingdom.

Arab youth ministers open meeting

TUNIS (Petra) — The Executive Bureau of the Council of Arab Ministers of Youth and Sports will discuss a memorandum on an international award proposed by Jordan for innovative youth activities. In its session which begins here today, the bureau will also review prospects for holding Arab school sports tournaments and Afro-Arab cooperation in the fields of youth and sports. Also on the discussion agenda is an Iraqi proposal to hold a Palestine cup tournament.

Pan-Arab customs law recommended

TUNIS (Petra) — Arab directors general of customs Friday concluded their two-day meetings here, recommending that a pan-Arab customs regulation be approved. They also recommended that the coordinated customs tariff be initially approved, and decided to call the expert group on customs tariff to meet on June 2.

Economic council to hold session here

TUNIS (J.T.) — Arab ministers of finance and economy and executive directors of specialised Arab League organisations will meet here on Feb. 1 for the 44th session of the Arab Economic and Social Council. The meeting will discuss means for enhancing joint Arab work, in addition to a study on functions and performance of the specialised organisations.

Dermatologist from U.S. arrives

AMMAN (J.T.) — The president of the U.S. Academy of Dermatology, Dr. Graham Smith, began a several-day visit to Jordan Thursday. During the visit he will supervise the treatment of a number of difficult medical cases in Jordan.

Kuwaiti education minister to visit

AMMAN (Petra) — Kuwaiti Minister of Education Anwar Nouri is due here Sunday on a five-day visit to Jordan. A Ministry of Education official said that Nouri would hold talks with his Minister of Education Thouqan Hindawi on bilateral cooperation and tour a number of educational institutions and universities.

UNESCO panel calls for generalised education

AMMAN (Petra) — A regional advisory meeting on elementary education and eradicating illiteracy in the Arab World by the year 2000 has concluded with recommendations for generalising education. During the three-day meeting held at the Amman based regional office of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), participants discussed cooperation between Arab

states and the UNESCO in achieving generalised education and mass literacy.

They decided to submit a working paper on a proposed regional programme for generalising elementary education and eradicating illiteracy by the year 2000 to a general meeting for UNESCO experts to be held during the second half of this year. The proposed programme, drawn up

by the UNESCO regional office in Amman, aims at giving all school-age children the opportunity to obtain elementary education by the year 2000.

It also aims to eradicate illiteracy among young and old people, with special focus on those between the age group 15-40.

Other goal of the programme is to improve the quality of education through reform and innovation.

The programme would offer technical aid and advisory services to Arab states. In addition, it aims to reform teacher-qualification procedures, and suggests the possibility of setting up a pan-Arab educational training centre.

It also gave special attention to educational programmes for women, especially those in rural regions.

The meeting was attended by delegates representing Jordan, Sudan, Egypt, Morocco, Syria, North Yemen and the Arab League Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (ALESCO).



A renowned Romanian folk dance troupe currently performing daily at the Alia Gateway Hotel.

Romanian week opens at Alia Gateway Hotel

AMMAN (J.T.) — A Romanian artistic week opens here today at the Alia Gateway Hotel under the patronage of Minister of Tourism Zahair Al Ajlouni, in cooperation with the Romanian Ministry of Tourism.

Folk dance performances by a renowned Romanian troupe will be presented daily at the hotel until Feb. 10.

The 10-day event is within the framework of the cultural and tourist cooperation agreement signed between Jordan and Romania. The week is aimed at acquainting the Jordanian public with Romanian culture and art and encouraging Jordanians to

visit Romania so as to further strengthen friendship and cooperation ties between the two countries.

To mark this occasion Alia Gateway Hotel Director-General Nazih Al Dabbas Thursday hosted a luncheon banquet for representatives of the local press. The event was attended by the first secretary at the Romanian embassy in Amman and embassy staff, in addition to hotel staff members.

Dabbas gave a speech during the banquet in which he reviewed the hotel's activities and its role in promoting tourism.

Reagan refuses to be pinned down

(Continued from page 1)

weeks of violence in the occupied territories. "However, without a new sense of realism on the part of all the parties, this will be difficult. Flexibility must be demonstrated by practical suggestions and not just by rhetorical posturing."

A U.S. official, commenting on Mubarak's proposal, said Thursday:

"We think that's a very sensible idea."

But he stressed the United States would back a peace conference only if it was designed to "launch negotiations" between Israel and the Arabs.

"The question of Palestinian representation is — remains — one of the tough ones," he said. "It hasn't been solved."

Balladur ends visit

(Continued from page 1)

individual initiative in that regard. He reiterated France's stand on the Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories saying Paris played a vital role at the United Nations Security Council in issuing resolutions condemning Israel's oppressive measures and the expulsion of Palestinians from their homeland.

In reply to a question, the minister said Egyptian President

Hosni Mubarak's proposal for a six-month moratorium on violence by Israelis and Palestinians and other "pertinent political initiatives" were all pointing in one direction — "for negotiations to arrive at a peaceful settlement to the Palestinian problem."

"We support the call," he said. Balladur's visit to Jordan sealed a four-country tour of the Middle East which took him to Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Kuwait.

PLO factions ponder pros and cons of U.S. contacts

(Continued from page 1)

signed by Siniora and Abu Rahme, said the Palestinian uprising aimed at achieving "our (Palestinian) freedom in our independent Palestinian state under the leadership of our sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, the PLO." It expressed hope that the international community "will immediately authorise the provision of an international force to intervene in the occupied territories, to whose trusteeship our population can be delivered, as a first step towards the convening of an international peace conference."

The two signatories said they looked forward to Shultz's "personal involvement and that of the U.S. in the peace process."

The second memorandum was signed "Palestinian institutions and personalities from the West Bank and Gaza" and

listed 14 demands which it said the U.S. should seek to fulfil as "a means to pave the way for an international peace conference on the Middle East."

'No contradictions'

Although the demands by no means contradicted the political line endorsed by the left-wing factions of the PLO, it seems that the opposition stemmed from a belief that Palestinian-American meetings would give credit to the U.S. "by giving the illusion that it is doing something for the Palestinian people."

"The only way that Washington would change its position is by continuing the Palestinian boycott of meetings with American officials," said Abd Rabbo.

While the Palestinian leaders here differed on the principle of meeting with American officials, another point of disagree-

ment involved the personalities of both Siniora and Abu Rahme.

The two are still seen closely associated with the PLO decision to designate them to meet with U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Near and Middle East Affairs Richard Murphy in 1985. The step then was strongly condemned by the left-wing factions and this hostility was deepened following a series of statements by Siniora which were viewed "as extremely conciliatory with the American position."

Furthermore, all the factions, including Fateh, are now fully supporting what is referred to as the "unified leadership of the uprising" which is believed to represent all the factions and all the popular organisations and the national personalities in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. In this context, a number of Palestinian leaders here viewed

the Washington meeting as "an American attempt to create moderate symbols for the uprising."

Echoing this view, Abd Rabbo said: "The American administration is trying to polish these names because it has not abandoned its efforts to create so called moderate leaders in the occupied territories."

But a senior Fateh official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, disagreed: "Both Siniora and Abu Rahme strictly adhered to the Palestinian consensus expressed in the resolutions of the 18th Palestine National Council (which convened last April in Algiers), and the demands expressed so far by the uprising."

Despite the clearly pronounced disagreement among Palestinian leaders over the Washington meeting, the issue has not affected inter-factional relations and coordination; PLO officials here stressed.

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ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Friday's

Al Ra'i: King warns against disaster

IN an interview with the West German television King Hussein said that the current uprising in the occupied Arab territory points to a new reality, that the oppressed people have now taken upon themselves the task of ridding their country of occupation. The King warned against a disaster that awaits the region and the whole world if things are left the way they are, and violence escalates to a point where all hope in the establishment of peace is lost. King Hussein said it was regrettable that the United States was hesitant about a clear-cut policy towards the Middle East peace process because it is influenced by the extremist Zionists who have power on the decision making process in America. The King called on the United States to free itself of restrictions and take meaningful action for solving the Arab-Israeli conflict. The Israeli intransigence and the U.S. hesitation in making decisions, the King said, form the major stumbling block in the path of peace, and the real danger that is posed to the Middle East region. The international community is now invited to shoulder its responsibility and take firm action to deter the Israeli aggressors and also put pressure on the U.S. administration into taking appropriate measures that pave the way for an international peace conference.

Al Dustour: King renews call for peace

KING Hussein has stressed in a West German radio and television interview the Jordanian position which calls for the solution of the Palestinian problem and for convening an international conference to attain that goal. King Hussein made it clear that Jordan wants the PLO to be invited to the peace talks, but the organisation ought to renounce violence and recognise U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338. The King stressed that Jordanian-Palestinian understanding should be based on the concept of these two resolutions because, he said, anyone participating in the proposed international conference should recognise the two resolutions which call for a total Israeli withdrawal from occupied Arab land. Referring to the U.S. stand, the King said that its hesitation in taking clear policies as to the peace process and its biased attitude towards Israel are impeding the peace process. He said that U.S. administration ought to free itself of Israeli and Zionist restrictions and the pressure being exercised upon it by the extremist elements in the United States so that it can contribute meaningfully towards the establishment of peace. Referring to the uprising in the occupied territory the King said that it came about as a result of Israel's iron fist policies and oppression and warned of further danger in the region if no solution was found.

Sawt Al Shaab: King stresses PLO role

JORDAN has always considered the PLO as the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and has sought to maintain the dialogue with the PLO in order to find a solution for the Palestine problem. King Hussein in a television interview Thursday reiterated this fact and also underlined Jordan's stand vis-a-vis the situation in the region and the ongoing uprising inside the occupied Arab lands. The King made it clear that Jordan was seeking an international conference that can find peace in our region, a stand which has won this country more backing and credibility worldwide. Jordan's demand for an international conference based on U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 has been backed by world nations which look to the establishment of peace based on justice. Jordan with all its might has been seeking peace through the assistance of peace-loving nations and the U.N. Security Council which issued resolutions on the Arab-Israeli conflict. Now the chance for holding the conference is available and the U.S. administration should realise that the uprising was a result of oppression and that peace should now be made to prevail, lest the whole area is engulfed in anarchy and violence.

Thursday's

Al Ra'i: A revolt against occupation

AS the uprising in the occupied Arab territories enters its eighth week the world is becoming more and more convinced that it is not a casual event in the life of the Arab population under Israeli rule. It is clearly a revolt against repression and torture and terrorism practiced against the Arab people by Israel over the past 20 years; and it is a march for peace that would ensure the rights of the Palestinians in their homeland. The world is watching as the Palestinians are taking the initiative, striving to regain their freedom and their rights; and therefore, they are pursuing the struggle. It is because Jordan is keen on supporting this just struggle and the Palestinian rights, it has urged the U.N. Security Council to take appropriate measures designed to convene an international conference as soon as possible for the sake of re-establishing a just and durable peace. It should be said that any obstacles that the United States might place in the path of the proposed conference are bound to fuel violence in the Israeli-held Arab land and would prompt the Arabs to think of proper measures to deal with the American challenge. The United States bears a heavy responsibility towards the region; and is regarded as a major force contributing to the continuation of the Palestinian people's sufferings. For this reason, the international community is invited to exert all possible efforts and convene the projected conference to establish a lasting peace.

Al Dustour: U.N. discusses report

THE U.N. Security Council was meeting Thursday to discuss a report on the Middle East situation and the current uprising in the occupied Arab territories submitted by the U.N. secretary general. The meeting assumes a special importance because the secretary general's report is based on findings by a U.N. envoy who toured the Arab region and witnessed Israel's repressive measures. It is also important in view of the worldwide response and reaction to the Israeli stand, and its continued practices against the civilian population. The most important point in the secretary general's report is that in which he calls for the convening of an international conference on the Middle East to establish peace and end the Arab-Israeli conflict. The Security Council, which has before it a detailed report about the situation in our region, is invited to take urgent steps that would lead to the convening of the proposed conference which remains the best and most effective means for bringing about peace. The coming days and the stands of the various nations together with the suggestions and proposals contained in the secretary general's report present as a real test for the council and the prospects of peace in our region.

Palestinian uprising marks Mideast watershed

By John Fallerton
Reuters

NICOSIA — Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied territories marks a watershed in the Arab-Israeli conflict, Arab and Western analysts say.

"Nothing will be quite the same — whether in the territories, in Israel itself, the United States or among Palestinians," said a U.S. specialist in Middle East affairs.

"You can compare it to the change in perceptions brought about by the Israeli invasion (of Lebanon) in 1982."

In the United States, traditional supporters of Israel have voiced varying degrees of criticism of Israel's contentious policy of beating demonstrators.

Jewish film-maker Woody Allen was the latest public figure to speak out, saying he was appalled by Israeli methods.

A senior Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) official told Reuters: "This is a critical time for the Middle East. We are approaching a turning point."

He spoke at length on the impact of the violence on internal Israeli politics, indicating the

PLO calculates closely the effect of Palestinian moves on forthcoming Israeli elections.

But the PLO official agreed that any change of heart on the part of Washington towards Israel, or within Israel itself, would take considerable time in evolving into a shift in the regional balance of power.

The Palestinian view was optimistic, and long-term.

The American, a diplomat, said that for the first time in its 24-year history, the PLO found itself winning a media war in which it could do nothing wrong, and the Israelis — in their handling of the protests — could do nothing right.

"It's a new ballgame and they (Palestinians) are winning it," he said, adding that the international spotlight imposed new opportunities and constraints.

The Palestinians are determined to keep things going their way, and have sent strong signals (to Israel) that they want to keep the issue within certain limits.

PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat said in Tunis last Tuesday that orders had been given to his supporters that weapons used in what he calls a blessed revolt

should be limited to stones.

Pledging to continue protests until Israel loosened its grip on Arab land, Arafat ruled out the use of firearms.

A Western analyst with pro-Israeli sympathies scorned the notion that the PLO could control events in Gaza and the West Bank, which he said were spontaneous outbursts of anger.

NEWS ANALYSIS

"Arafat's running hard to keep up with events," he said. "But I am prepared to accept the proposition that the PLO can dampen down or incite riots... it has the power of veto over what many West Bank Palestinians may say or do."

"But does it matter whether he is on top of the wave, behind it or underneath it? Arafat is all they (Palestinians) have got. He is the symbol of their cause."

Signs that Arafat was keeping the door open for dialogue included talks on Wednesday between U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and two prominent Palestinians, newspaper editor Hanna Siniora and lawyer Fayez Abu Rahme.

The talks were condemned by a Syrian-backed coalition, the

National Salvation Front. Analysts said this once again showed how Arafat's room for manoeuvre could be constrained by dissenting voices within the Palestinian movement as a whole.

Arafat has also described U.N. Security Council moves criticising Israel as an advance in U.S. policy.

On four resolutions, the United States voted for one, abstained on two and vetoed a fourth.

In Amman, senior PLO officials talked to Jordanian officials on Wednesday.

Jordan plays an important role as power-broker in the Middle East and is widely regarded in the West as a moderate influence.

In an interview King Hussein said he wanted the PLO to join a proposed international Middle East peace conference, but it should renounce violence and accept U.N. resolutions 242 and 338.

The PLO has said the resolutions fail to address the Palestinian right to self-determination.

The King charged the United States with dragging its feet over the peace process.

"If we leave things the way

they are for any longer, I fear we are fast approaching the psychological moment where all hope is lost for achieving a just, durable peace," he said.

At the Arab League foreign ministers' meeting last Saturday, Arafat reiterated PLO demands for direct participation in any peace conference as the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Of Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak's peace mission to the United States and Western Europe, some Palestinians expressed considerable doubt.

Mubarak has proposed that Israel and the Palestinians halt violence as part of a fresh peace initiative.

For many PLO supporters, however, maintaining the level of protests in Gaza and the West Bank is directly linked to the goal of ending Israeli occupation.

A Palestinian journalist and PLO supporter commented scathingly: "You must understand something. Mubarak is a political nouveau riche. A newcomer, who believes no cost is too high to keep the United States talking to Arabs."

Talking to Washington was im-

portant, the U.S. diplomat countered, and that was what made Mubarak the moderate leader of an important regional power.

The idea that Israel would actually end its occupation of the territories seized in 1967 was self-delusion on the part of Palestinians and the PLO in particular, he said.

"Palestinians have made strides in public opinion, but I don't see how Arafat is going to translate this into solid political gains, the way (President Anwar) Sadat turned the 1973 Middle East war into the Camp David agreement."

Egypt, under Sadat, signed a peace agreement with Israel in 1979 — the only Arab state to have done so. Sadat was assassinated by fundamentalist gunmen on October 6, 1981.

Was it not time for Washington to act, to oil the wheels of the peace process and heed advice from envoys in the region?

"I really don't know. I would have to be in Washington to answer that. I would not be sitting next to (White House chief of staff) Howard Baker in the White House. That's where the reality is."

King: Palestinian uprising changed Mideast situation

(Continued from page 1)

The King criticised Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir without naming him. "The problem is in a prime minister who says that I want peace, but... peace that means that the West Bank remains under Israeli control, that Gaza remains under Israeli control, that all Arab territories remain under Israeli control, yet peace and at the same time claims to have no preconditions."

Land in exchange for peace

The King said there was no other way to a solution to the Palestinian problem except on the basis of territory for peace. "...I know of many who have written in the United States that Jordan is Palestine. I voiced that slogan many years ago."

"Jordan was Palestine, Palestine was Jordan; we are all members of one family. But, and I say it again now, we are one family. Yet, does that end the problem?"

The King said the traditional Jordanian-American relations had changed in recent years as a result of U.S. policy in the Middle East. "We are still, I suppose, friends. But nowhere there is the kind of relationship that existed between us in the past. Certainly, there is not the reliance on our side, on friends where we stood by through many years, where we stood through many phases in the life of this entire area."

His Majesty rejected a suggestion by the interviewer that "a lot of people who are well educated and politically mature feel frustrated" in Jordan and said: "I do

not believe this to be the case, and people are expressing their feelings in the most constructive way possible. And if we refer to arrests, that is probably a reference to the leadership of the PFLP (Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine) here... which received instructions from the leadership outside this country to utilise what was happening in the occupied territories to the best possible effect to undermine the stability of Jordan. I believe that the answer to the efforts of either this particular group or others is awareness of Jordanians of what they should do to help their brethren in the occupied territories... and obviously not to detract from the effectiveness of the actions taken by people on the occupied territories under duress by creating situations that are not in the interest of Jordan's stability or Arab stability..."

Mubarak visit

In reply to a question on the current visit to the U.S. by Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and his proposal for a six-month moratorium on violence in the occupied territories and a freeze on Israeli settlement in the West Bank and Gaza, the King said:

"I coordinate very closely with President Mubarak. I know him as a man of great integrity, of great concern for the Palestinian people... I know his commitment to the cause of just and durable peace in this area. One would hope that he would be heard, and that his warnings and his appeals will be effective. But there have been so many disappointments in the past. Well, one has to be an

optimist, and I hope that it will work well."

"...A lot depends on Washington at this point in time. And I believe that President Mubarak is trying to point to the dangerous situation and in time to seek a new American position, or a revitalised American position, particularly as pertains to the international conference which we have been striving to see coming to being to resolve this problem comprehensively."

U.S. inaction

The King deplored the influence on American policymakers of extremists in Israel and said: "...We have been warning (the U.S.) against the deteriorating situation in the occupied territories and hope being lost and we being on the verge of the crisis. Well, now the crisis is upon us. It is a fact that the people in a position of authority in the United States are unable unfortunately to exercise the powers they have to influence the events in a constructive direction and to achieve a comprehensive lasting peace in this area."

Jordan-PLO dialogue

In an earlier interview with West German television and radio, His Majesty the King said Jordan was willing to resume political coordination with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) but that the resumption point should be "from where we stopped... and not to start one from the beginning."

"Now there are possibilities of a renewed dialogue and I hope that the PLO's leadership understands very clearly... that if they wish to resume this dialogue we would welcome it, but resume it, not start from the very beginning," the King said.

He told West German radio ARD and television ZDF that Jordan wanted the PLO to be invited to a proposed international conference on Middle East peace.

"If it attends, it will have to accept (U.N. Security Council Resolutions) 242 and 338, re-

nounce violence and indicate its readiness to deal with the Palestinian problem in all its aspects," he said.

In the interview, King Hussein again accused the United States of failing to do all it could to promote peace in the Middle East.

"Unfortunately one can see a reluctance of the United States (to work for peace) due to the influence of extremist elements in Israel over decision-makers in the United States," he said.

He hoped Washington would change its attitude "because it can certainly play a constructive role if it chooses to do so."

"They (the Americans) have to address the problem and free themselves of the pressures under which they have succumbed in the recent past," he said.

The King said an international conference supervised by the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council was urgently needed to settle the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Palestinians' future.

The King said the Palestinian protests in the West Bank and

Gaza were "a spontaneous, internal reaction to 20 years of hardship, occupation and denial of the Palestinians' basic human rights... I believe even the Israelis understand this to be the case."

He said he feared that continued Palestinian protests and Israel's iron-fist response would cause a further deterioration of conditions in the occupied territories.

Arab states would go on backing the Palestinians, he said, but added: "right now, it seems to be a situation in which the people in the occupied territories have taken it upon themselves to resist the occupation — this is a new reality."

"If we leave things the way they are for any longer, I fear we are fast approaching the psychological moment where all hope is lost for achieving a just, durable peace."

"If we reach that point, disaster is going to overtake all in this area — Israel, her Arab neighbours, the Palestinians and maybe the world."

Arabs keep up protests

(Continued from page 1)

Protesters blocked roads in the Al Sabra district with makeshift barricades and burning tyres but dispersed when soldiers fired tear-gas canisters and live ammunition over their heads.

Soldiers entered the home of Reuters correspondent Taher Shriteh in Al Sabra, broke some windows and hit his mother and brother, the journalist reported. The incident occurred after Shriteh, 28, went to investigate a clash in a nearby street.

Sources said the defence minister, Yitzhak Rabin, told authorities in the West Bank Thursday to increase "family reunification" permits there and 500 new construction permits were signed.

Two petrol bombs were thrown during the night in the street of Bethlehem's Palestinian mayor, Elias Freij. But he told Reuters the bombs were not thrown at his house but at an Israeli bus.

At Shufat refugee camp about six kilometres north of Jerusalem, Palestinian residents and a U.N. field worker said Israeli soldiers dragged residents from their beds late Thursday and beat them with wooden truncheons.

Mohammad Nima, 15, said hundreds of men and boys were rounded up over a three-hour period beginning 10 p.m. Thursday and were forced to lie face down in a garbage dump.

Jamal Awad, a U.N. relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) field worker, told the AP that 64 Palestinians suffered injuries in the round-up and were transferred to Arab Jerusalem's Mukas-sad Hospital, where most were treated and released.

Some seen by the AP Friday suffered from fractured limbs. Among the injured was a three-year-old girl, Khala Bassam Khatab.

Shultz to outline new moves

(Continued from page 1)

Shultz described as "a first step toward the convening of an international peace conference" on the Middle East.

"We sensed that Shultz feels the urgency of the situation (in the occupied territories)," Siniora told the Mideast Mirror. "He promised to become personally engaged in the (peace) process and activate U.S. efforts in this direction."

During their stay in Washington, Siniora and Abu Rahme attended the founding meeting of a U.S. Interreligious Committee for Peace in the Middle East. (See page 2).

Shamir: Temporary solution

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir said Friday the new U.S. drive was aimed at starting a "Middle East peace process" that will focus on a temporary solution for the occupied territories instead of a format for talks.

Speaking in an interview with the Associated Press, Shamir said the solution envisioned was "more or less" like the "autonomy" scheme in the 1978 Camp David accords. But he said he was willing to negotiate changes.

Shamir rejected a call from Egypt's President Hosni Mubarak for a six-month moratorium on violence. "I don't agree to his conditions, and I told him so," he said apparently referring to the proposed freeze on settlements.

Shamir was briefed on U.S. moves by aide Eliakim Rubinstein who returned from Washington Thursday night.

He said the U.S. government was discussing a plan similar to the 1978 "autonomy" scheme discussed by Egypt and Israel.

"The American position is now to concentrate the efforts on the question of substance, not of procedure," Shamir said. "After we will get an agreement about substance, the question of the procedure (for setting up talks) will be of secondary importance."

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Maysoon the librarian (left) at her library with a customer. The feature is part of Al Manazhil educational television aimed at young children already addicted or well used to the medium.

Beating TV at its own game

By Neil Harris

AMMAN — He's about seven years old, an easy-going child with a natural curiosity. But he has no zeal for study and can barely read or write. The classroom spells little but drudgery for him, and his mother cannot grip his interest with stories beginning "Once upon a time..." because she, too, is unable to read.

So the child watches television, perhaps Tom and Jerry cartoons. Years later when his school days are over, the illiterate child finds himself an illiterate adult, his career crippled at the outset by a sense of defeat and shame for which his family and country will be all the poorer.

The minds of Arab governments are being concentrated on this nightmarish prospect. But if mastering syntax involves years of grind, is there any way you can tempt children away from the animated cartoons and toward the breathless adventures to be found between the covers of a book?

The Al Manazhil educational television series, already broadcast in Jordan, Qatar, Oman, Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates, is a politically unique event in Arab television.

There have been other educational programmes made for the small screen in the region, but Al Manazhil is the first full-scale series designed to help the young away from the addictive clutches of the very medium in which it is presented.

The achievements of the 65 half-hour episodes of high-speed colour print, cartoons, comic sketches, miniature dramas and location photography have yet to be assessed. But the political urgency of its aims is evident from the wealth of prominent names involved with its creation.

Al Manazhil involved months of intensive collaboration by senior educators, civil servants

and broadcasters in Jordan, Egypt, Tunisia, Morocco and the Yemen Arab Republic. Literacy requirements were clarified, distilled into broadcasting values, translated into visual techniques and tested on school children.

Little effort was spared — \$6 million in research and production costs were provided by the Jordanian government and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). Some of Jordan's most talented actresses and actors were hired to work in the state-of-the-art studios of the Jordanian Company for Television. Radio and Cinema; technical advice and assistance was lent by USAID's subsidiary, Children's Television Workshop.

This was a huge effort to condense lifetimes of experience by teachers and broadcasters; it was also a daunting experience, for the allure of book-reading hardly counts as a measurable science. It is instructive to consider the contrasting values of those involved.

"Each programme is supposed to carry a message," said Jawad Maraka, chairman of the Jordanian Company for Television. "We believe in this medium and so it is not preaching; Arab television is not a matter of technicalities but of content. We have our own culture and our own problems."

Television, to members of the advisory panel, is clearly one of these problems. Dr. Abdel Kader Ezaki, of the educational sciences faculty of Morocco's University of Mohamed V, commented: "Without reading, very little learning takes place in school. Television is conquering many homes."

Yes, conquering. Television is notoriously intrusive as well as entertaining, a force driven into a household with deep personal effects by programme-makers, who cannot always assess the minutiae of its impact.

Countries such as Britain, with high television skills, are now suffering bouts of self-doubt about the freedom given to broadcasters. For example: A man runs amok in a small English town and kills 17 innocent people. Has he watched too many violent dramas on television? Did something on the screen light some fuse of anger inside him, when he had no one there to help him control the experience?

The makers of Al Manazhil would say that such knots can never be fully unraveled; rather, that a young mind can be cultivated, and partly insured against disturbance, by developing its natural sense of harmony and individual worth by self-expression, by language.

This is where the minds behind Al Manazhil have again shown sensitivity to the need for a balance between an assortment of Arab vernaculars and a unified tongue that is not stripped of its texture and eloquence.

Across the West, tightly glued to television have led to the emergence of a TV speak, a crass studio language in which meaning is subordinated to slickness, and the beauty of sound is lost to the gabbling synchrony of announcers, headlines and theme music.

Using Modern Standard Arabic, Al Manazhil takes considerable pains to curb this tendency.

Whole sketches are built around the sight and sound of single words as they emerge in large colour-print. In one sketch — very funny even to a non-Arab viewer — a gaudy quiz-show is aimed at working out the phrase "A friend in need is a friend indeed." There are two contestants. The nervous, embarrassed one wins; the bragging loud-mouth loses.

In other scenes, words are conjured up by a magician's elegant white-gloved hands; in another, the appearance of a genie spurs his surprised host to learn the language of introduction — Arab News.

JTV Channel 2 Preview

Sat. — Jan. 30, 1988

8:30 Married with Children
"Sixteen Years and What Do You Get?"
Unbeknownst to Al, Peggy runs his credit card up to the limit and he is forced to show up for his sixteenth wedding anniversary empty-handed.

9:00 Sat. Variety Show.

10:20 Feature Film.

Sun. — Jan. 31, 1988

8:30 Farrington of the F.O.

9:10 Australia
New Documentary
In January, 1988 it will be just 200 years since the first settlers, 760 unwilling convicts, were landed at Sydney Cove. Totally bewildered, for all they knew they might have come ashore on the other side of the moon. To celebrate the bicentenary of the nation which has grown from such unpromising beginnings, the series has invited five distinguished Australians to make an anthology of documentary film; each has chosen a subject or an era which highlights different aspects of their nation's story... quirky, perceptive, fascinating.

10:20 Secret Army.

Mon. — Feb. 1, 1988

8:30 Are You Being Served

9:10 Vanity Fair
New Classic Drama-Series

The adventures of clever, unscrupulous Becky Sharp — indomitable social-climber and improviser extraordinaire — and dear, sweet, gently-bard Amelia Sedley are brought vividly to life in this epic adaptation of Thackeray's brilliantly witty and satirical novel.

Starring: Rebecca Saire
Eve Matheson
Jack Klaff

10:20 Feature Film

My Blue Heaven
Starring: Betty Grable, Dan Dailey, David Wayne.
Fast moving musical with Grable and Dailey tapping and singing their way through.

Tue. — Feb. 2, 1988

8:30 Martin Luther King Part 3

9:30 Executive Stress
Edgar has two pieces of news for his two top executives, Caroline and Donald Fairchild. The first is — Donald will definitely be the new Managing Director of Oasis U.K. — the second is — he's sending Caroline to "join her husband" in Jeddah for 5 years.

10:20 The Equalizer
11:10 Three's Company

Wed. — Feb. 3, 1988

8:30 Charles in Charge

9:00 Well Being
Smear Campaign
Cervical cancer hit the headlines in 1985 as the British screening system was exposed as inadequate.



Martin Luther King on Tuesday and Thursday at 8:30.

ate. The media focussed mainly on the problem of insufficient smears and the lack of government funding. This film is different, it looks at the women who get caught up in the system, who have abnormal smears and are treated in an off-hand way, kept in the dark about what is wrong with them and seemingly blamed for getting the disease in the first place. We look at the latest treatment and the latest theories about causes, and dispel some of the misconceptions about cervical cancer through the moving and sometimes humorous experiences of several women.

9:35 Alfred Hitchcock Presents ...

10:20 Roses are for the Rich Mini Series

Thur. — Feb. 4, 1988

8:30 Martin Luther King Part 4

9:10 Rags to Riches

10:20 Feature Film
Stick

Stick leaves jail after seven years and participate, with a friend of his, in Miami — Florida in smuggling. His friend is killed by a treacherous act of the gang; but he hardly survives and works as a driver for a wealthy man. The gang kills another friend of his who asks him to take revenge.

Fri. — Feb. 5, 1988

8:30 Growing Pains

9:10 Magnum

10:20 Falcon Crest

Television and children in the USA

The way children in the United States are learning to think may to a large extent be controlled by a handful of powerful but distant corporations whose primary motives are to make money rather than impart education. Recent research points to the adverse mental and physical effects television is having on children, and communications experts along with psychiatrists, church groups and parents are becoming alarmed by what children are seeing and learning. Also becoming an issue is the commercialisation of children's television through toy-based cartoon programming.

AMERICANS are raising a generation of fat children and television is one of the largest contributing factors to this trend, according to an official of the American Academy of Pediatrics.

Dr. Joseph Zanga made the statement last month as part of a newly launched campaign to promote physical education in schools and greater awareness of the importance of fitness. The campaign follows a number of studies that have shown among other things:

— That the proportion of overweight children in the USA has increased more than 50 per cent over the last 20 years.

— That nearly one-third of white males in their pre-teen years are overweight.

— That obesity increased by 2 per cent for each additional hour of TV viewed per week five years later in 2000 children under study.

— And that trim children are less likely to develop heart disease as adults.

"If you're looking for one whipping boy, look at TV," Dr. Zanga said. "We've given kids something that not only doesn't encourage them to do anything, but something that actually discourages them from anything active."

Last year, 18 million children participated in the "President's Challenge," a series of exercises that measured strength, flexibility and endurance. Only 2 per cent of the children performed well enough to receive an award.

New religion

In most homes in the United States, the television is on from the moment a newborn infant arrives home from the hospital, and between the ages of 2 and 12, children spend an average of 25 hours a week watching it, according to the American Academy of Pediatrics. By the age of 18, children will have spent more time in front of the TV than in school.

"I call television the new religion," George Gerbner, dean of the Annenberg School of Communications told the Chicago Tribune. "It's used more religiously than any religion has ever been."

Children absorb a great deal of information from television before they can even speak, let alone read, and much of what they absorb greatly influences future behaviour.

"Television becomes the norm against which everything else in society is measured," he said.

What kind of norm does television establish? The world children see on television is primarily populated by men who are white who engage in acts of violence. Men outnumber women three to one on programmes in general, eight to one in cartoons. White males comprise 45 per cent of all prime-time characters, and in a single hour, children's shows average 20 to 25 acts of violence.

Dr. William Dietz of Boston, chair of the American Academy of Pediatrics subcommittee on children and television, warned that television may be eliminating childhood.

"When learning depended on rites of passage, or access to secrets, or later depended on the ability to read, learning was very

age-dependent," he said. "Television has eliminated all that."

Commercialised violence

Eighty per cent of all children's television programming is produced for toy companies to help maximise their sales to children, and most of these cartoons and toys are heavily violent, the National Coalition on Television Violence (NCTV) says.

Today, close to 30 "programme-length commercials" compete for the attention and buying power of children. Typically, a cartoon will feature a hero or military force doing battle against evil enemies with both sides using futuristic laser weapons. During commercials, toy companies advertise the sale of toys featuring a whole array of sophisticated weapons and vehicles so that children can simulate the battle they see on the programmes at home.

Over the last three years, war toy sales have increased 600 per cent and in 1985 amounted to U.S.\$1.8 billion.

"There is nothing in the past that is anywhere near as intensely violent and sadistic, as gun-ho pro-war in its message to children, as the current wave of

toy-based war cartoons," Dr. Thomas Radecki, research director of NCTV said. "These programme-length commercials are an unethical trade practice and are having a harmful effect on tens of millions of young children."

Many studies have shown that such programming promotes anti-social behaviour in children who exhibit aggressiveness against other people, and even themselves.

Cost of commercials

By the time children are 18 years old, they will have watched 15,000 hours of television and seen 350,000 advertisements. What does it take to produce a single ad?

In the October issue of Smithsonian magazine, a nine-page article describes the making of a 15-second commercial for a popular antacid tablet that took more than 75 people six and a half months and a million dollars to make. The advertisement was made to publicise the new cherry-flavoured version of the tablet.

It is estimated that each year, 25,000 new network commercials are aired, with the most expensive air time selling for as much as U.S.\$400,000 a half minute — Action For Children, UNICEF.

Camels cause chaos on desert roads

By Ken Haley
Reuters

MUSCAT — The remains of a smashed pick-up truck and three dead camels lay by the roadside. Police had already removed the bodies of the three men killed when their vehicle smashed into the wandering dromedaries.

In Oman, where new roads are reaching out to remote areas, the ship of the desert is coming increasingly into confrontation with traffic.

The result is often death for both man and beast.

Collisions between camels and vehicles have become such a problem that a committee embracing six government departments has been established to try to do something about it.

Police said 63 people were killed or injured in collisions between vehicles and camels last year. The camel toll was 166.

The real figures are almost certainly higher, police say, because many accidents are never reported.

The result of accidents can be expensive, usually to the driver or his insurance company, and less frequently to the camel owner.

Traditional Omanis measure their wealth in camels. A highly-prized racing camel can fetch anything from 10,000 rials (\$26,000) to 70,000 rials (\$182,000).

For many years the upper limit of compensation was set at 5,000 rials (\$13,000) per beast.

Despite the reduction of the limit to 2,400 rials (\$6,000), the Islamic courts, which adjudge compensation are beset by claimants anxious to recoup as much as they can.

"In some areas they say every

camel that was ever knocked down was a pregnant racing camel," an insurance company manager told Reuters.

More expensive than humans

"We've even had incidents where the courts have ordered more paid out in compensation to camel owners than was paid for the death of a human being."

As a first step, the courts require proof of ownership.

"Each tribe has a special branding mark on the camel. The owner can ask his friends to come and witness that it is his camel," a police spokesman explained.

If a vehicle kills or maims a camel, whether tethered or not, the driver is always liable.

"There is no excuse. These are animals that have no brains, no control," the spokesman said.

"Even if there were no way the driver could have avoided the accident, he still cannot go to court to get compensation because no one will come to identify the camel."

Camel owners, prompted by government publicity campaigns, have started taking measures to protect their animals from vehicles.

"They are not grazing the camels next to the road any more, they are grazing further away," the spokesman said.

The main problem is caused by those camels allowed to wander loose, foraging for food over wide areas of inhospitable desert.

In Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates (UAE), fences are being built along roads to prevent camels, usually seen in herds of six to eight, from wandering out of the desert.

Hollywood has a boom year without teenage sex romps

By Ronald Clarke
Reuters

LOS ANGELES — It's good-bye to films about pop music and high school sex romps, hello to middle class America.

Hollywood is reaping more money than ever at the box office with a glut of films and a revolutionary formula — never mind the teenagers, go for the people with money.

Hollywood is luring young couples and middle-class professionals alike back to the cinema — their tastes tickled by the video cassettes they have been watching at home — with old-fashioned stories of passion, romantic comedies, greed and action.

The box office hit "Fatal Attraction," in which Michael Douglas paid the high cost of a brief affair, and Oliver Stone's tale of financial greed, "Wall Street," have convinced producers they can make money from films aimed at grown-ups.

Diane Keaton and Tom Selleck, struggling with bringing up babies in "Baby Boom" and "Three Men and a Cradle," and an Oscar favourite, "Broadcast News," have increased producers' faith in adult tastes.

Hollywood has persuaded itself that its new audience will even watch films on the Vietnam war, once taboo. "Platoon," which won the Oscar for best picture last year, has been followed by a spate of Vietnam movies, including "Full Metal Jacket" and "Good Morning, Vietnam," with comedian Robin Williams playing a berserk radio disc jockey.

Record sale

U.S. box office receipts last year exceeded the rosiest expectations with a record total of \$4.25 billion, a 12 per cent increase over 1986, according to the entertainment industry newspaper Variety.

Some 578 films were made during the past year, the biggest annual total for 20 years, Variety said.

The number of movie screens has reached 23,000, its highest number since 1948, the National Theatre Owners Association said.

Cineplex opened the biggest U.S. theatre complex, with 18 screens and seats for 6,000, in Los Angeles last year as a show of faith in the filmgoing public.

One reason for Hollywood's big box-office success is video cassettes. Instead of keeping viewers at home, video cassettes have actually revived adults' interest in film and drawn them back to movie theatres, according to industry analysts.

Delayed videos

Major studios, hoping to win both ways, now plan to have video cassettes on sale only six months after the films are released in the cinema.

With cassette recorders now an estimated 30 million U.S. homes, according to the video industry, revenues rival ticket sales.

But Hollywood can still have its failures, some of them colossal. Despite having two of the biggest stars, Warren Beatty and Dustin Hoffman, the desert com-

edy "Ishtar" is far from recuperating its \$50 million investment. Steven Spielberg's "Empire of the Sun," the story of a boy caught up in the Japanese invasion of China, also has a long way to go to return its investment of \$45 million.

Even with television's biggest comedy star, Bill Cosby, the receipts for "Leonard Part VII" have all but guaranteed that audiences should not wait for a "Leonard Part VII."

But Eddie Murphy showed he is still unbeatable on the big screen by pushing "Beverly Hills Cop II" to the top of the 1987 box office ratings, taking in \$154 million, according to Variety.

A low budget musical, "La Bamba," based on the short life of the Hispanic-American rock singer Ritchie Valens, was one of the "sleepers" of the year, taking in more than \$54 million at the box office so far, partly because it was released jointly at Spanish and English-language theatres.

Another "sleeper" could well be the British film "Hope and Glory," the warm story of British life during World War II as seen through the eyes of a seven-year-old boy.

Though screened at only a limited number of cinemas, the Los Angeles film critics, who are closely read by the studios, selected it as their film of the year.

Walt Disney pictures went back to old Hollywood days, when major studios kept all the stars under contract. Disney built up a regular team, including Bette Midler, Shelley Long and Richard Dreyfuss, and produced profitable low budget films.

Italian helps Porsche hold off Jaguar onslaught

Baldi wins pole position

DAYTONA BEACH, Florida (AP) — Mauro Baldi of Italy helped Porsche hold off the expected Jaguar onslaught Thursday by winning the pole position for this weekend's Daytona 24-hours IMSA Camel GT endurance race.

Baldi, who now makes his home in Monte Carlo, drove a Porsche 962 prototype around the 5.7-kilometre road course at Daytona International Speedway in 1 minute, 38.917 seconds, an average of 208.467 kilometres per hour (kph).

That was just a bit shy of the track record of 1:38.883 and 208.539 kilometres per hour, set in November 1985, by Sarel van Der Merwe of South Africa in a Chevrolet Corvette GTP.

Jan Lammers of The Netherlands was a close second in one of the New Jaguar XJR-9s at 1:39.362, 207.534 kph.

Only the top two qualifiers in Thursday's single-car session for the GT Prototyping Division locked in starting spots for America's most prestigious sports car endurance race.

The rest of the GTP cars, as well as cars in the Camel Lights, GTO and GTU Divisions, can better their Thursday laps in further multi-car European-style qualifying Friday.

The race is scheduled to start Saturday at 20:30 GMT.

Price Cobb of Evergreen, Colo., was third in another Porsche at 1:40.176, 205.847 kph, followed closely by the Jaguar of

Eddie Cheever, an American who lives in Rome, at 1:40.179, 205.841 kph.

West German Klaus Ludwig, driving a Porsche, was next at 1:40.777, 204.620 kph, while Oscar Larrauri of Italy followed in another 962 at 1:43.272, 199.675, and Tom Gloy of Lafayette, California, at 1:44.451, 197.423 in a Ford GTP.

Defending champion Chip Robinson, in another Porsche, had a mechanical problem as he warmed up for his qualifying lap and failed to post an official speed.

"We have a slight miss in the engine and the crew is working on it right now," said Robinson, who again will team with car-owner Al Holbert and Englishman Derek Bell in the Daytona race, trying for their third straight victory.

"We thought we might be able to get a late qualifying lap, but IMSA said it was just too late," Robinson said. "Qualifying tomorrow (Friday) will be fine. It doesn't really matter where we qualify anyway. Last year, we qualified 10th and still won."

Baldi, 33, who will share the Porsche cockpit this weekend with two-time 24-hour winners Bob Wollek of France and Brian

Redman of England, had only three days of testing on this circuit prior to his fast qualifying lap.

"We test many laps during those three days," Baldi said. "The car is not changed since we came here several weeks ago."

Asked if he was surprised that their Porsche beat the heralded Jaguars of Scotsman Tom Walkinshaw, brought to America for the first time, Baldi said: "If the car is good and you can find a good compromise in the setting of the chassis, it's not easy, but you can do it."

"We were expecting that a Jaguar would be in the pole position, but it is a Porsche instead."

In other qualifying Thursday, Pete Halsmer of Anaheim, California, led the GTO Division in a Lincoln-Mercury XR4TI, finishing 10th overall at 1:49.152, 188.919.

That broke the GTO track qualifying mark of 1:49.354, 188.570, set by Halsmer's current teammate, Scott Pruett, in Oct. 1986 in a Ford Mustang.

The fastest Camel Lights car was a Buick Spire driven by Scott Schubert of West Palm Beach, Florida, with a fast lap of 1:52.775, 182.850, good for 16th overall.

The top GTU entry was a Mazda RX-7 driven by Amos Johnson of Raleigh, North Carolina. Johnson, who has won the GTU Division here three straight years, Johnson was 33rd overall at 1:59.721, 172.242.

England beats Australia in test match

SYDNEY (AP) — England opener Chris Broad made Australia pay dearly for dropped catches Friday, the first day of the Bicentennial Test cricket match at the Sydney cricket ground.

England was 221 for two at stumps with Broad unbeaten on 116 and Mike Gatting on three.

Broad spent the whole of the 365 minutes of the innings at the crease and hit 12 boundaries.

It was Broad's fifth century in his test career and fourth on Australian wickets. He notched three test tons during the Ashes tour last summer.

Australia fielded poorly in the first session with David Boon, Allan Border and Craig McDermott all dropping catches.

Boon dropped Martyn Moxon when he was five from the first ball of Tony Dodemaide's third over, putting down a hot chance at short leg.

On 15 the usually safe hands of Border dropped Moxon at first slip from the second ball of Steve Waugh's second over and just before lunch McDermott failed to hold a caught and bowled chance off Broad when he was on 36.

Those missed chances capped a dismal day for the Australians who received their first setback when Border lost the toss and

condemned himself to fourth use of a spin-prone wicket.

But despite the strong stumps position, the England camp was not altogether pleased with the amount of runs amassed.

England cricket manager Mickey Stewart blamed the outfield for his team's total.

"We probably lost another 50 runs with the slow outfield," Stewart said.

"But there was more grass on the wicket than last year here when we were beaten by Australia."

"Another factor kept down our final total — we lost two batsmen in the 40s — Moxon on 40 and Tim Robinson at 43 when they should have got on with their innings."

Broad, international cricketer of the year here in the 1986-87 season, said: "Australia has been part of a very enjoyable 18 months for me. I like playing here, but I felt nervous for the first time in a test for a long time when I went out to bat today."

"But I knew that I had to be positive and get on with the job."

Broad said conditions did not help stroke-making.

"I believe I lost 30-40 runs with the slow outfield and I was surprised at the spongy wicket which

was damp early," he said.

"It was frustrating running the long threes on a hot summer day and I lost a little weight in the process."

Australia opted to go into the clash using spinners Peter Sleep and Peter Taylor and omitting Victorian paceman Meru Hughes.

England went the same way and made fast bowler Phillip De Freitas their extra man after including spinners John Emburey and Eddie Hemmings.

Broad's marshalling of the strike and his constant menace at one end saw him put on 93 with Moxon before the Yorkshire right-hander was bowled by sleep playing right over a well fought leg break.

Broad and Robinson put on 99 runs for the second wicket in 142 minutes from 226 balls as Border vainly tried to break through the partnership.

Sleep finished with 1-54 from 23 overs, five of which were maidens.

Dodemaide, was the other successful bowler when he had Robinson snuffed up at second slip by the mercurial Mike Veletta. The Victorian all-rounder finished with 1-54 from 21 overs, including five maidens.

Everton buries Sheffield in soccer replay

LONDON (R) — Scotland's Graeme Sharp hit a first half hat-trick as Everton buried Sheffield Wednesday under an avalanche of goals in their English F.A. Cup third round, third soccer replay Wednesday.

After five and a half hours of stalemate, Everton found the form which earned them the First Division title last season and romped to a 5-0 win.

All of the goals came in the first half, Sharp opening the floodgates with his first after just five minutes.

Adrian Heath fired the second in the 19th minute and a three-goal blitz late in the half — Sharp (39) and (43) and Ian Snodin (44) — sank Wednesday without trace.

Everton are away to Second Division pacemakers Middlesbrough in the fourth round Saturday.

Sharp was assisted in completing the third hat-trick of his career by some appalling defensive play as Wednesday failed to come to terms with the absence of the injured Lawrie Madden.

Manager Howard Wilkinson was forced to abandon his blocking plan of three centre-backs and that let in Sharp, the man he feared most.

Wednesday's only consolation was their £250,000 (£445,000) share of gate receipts from the

protracted tie which was watched by more than 142,000 fans.

Spain, E. Germany draw

VALENCIA (R) — Spain's old hands failed to capitalise on their overwhelming territorial advantage and were held to a goalless draw by East Germany in a soccer friendly Wednesday.

The Spanish have yet to score against the East Germans in a full international. Their two previous meetings, both in 1980, ended in a goalless draw and a 1-0 win for the Germans.

Spain, playing the first of six warm-up matches for the European Championship finals in June, did manage to get the ball in the net twice. But Manuel Sanchez was judged offside when Jose Bakero netted in the 30th minute and Julio Salinas was penalised for handball when he scored after 52 minutes.

Their best effort came from Sanchez midway through the second half, his header forcing goalkeeper Rene Muller into a brilliant diving save.

East Germany, missing injured striker Andreas Thom, had their only real chance in the second minute when Thomas Doll shot

wide after goalkeeper Andoni Zubizarreta had fumbled a shot at goal.

Coventry hopes to ease German tips

LONDON (R) — Holders Coventry hope to apply a few tips they picked up from West German First Division club Hamburg when they meet reviving Watford in an English Football Association (F.A.) Cup fourth round tie Saturday.

Coventry and Hamburg shared training facilities near Malaga in Southern Spain for several days this week as both clubs escaped for a break from Northern Europe's winter.

Coventry manager John Sillett said: "We have been learning from each other."

Sillett will pick his team to meet fellow English First Division strugglers Watford Friday, but he has hinted there will be no room for club record signing David Speedie.

The Scottish international striker, signed from Chelsea for £800,000 (\$1.4 million) last year, has missed two matches through suspension and his deputy Dave Bennett has scored three goals.

Jansher, Jahangir to clash in French Open squash meet

PARIS (R) — World number one Jansher Khan and his predecessor Jahangir Khan are set to clash in the French Open squash tournament in Paris in March, the organisers said Friday.

World champion Jansher defeated fellow-Pakistani Jahangir, who won his fifth French Open title last year, at the top of the world rankings at the turn of the

year after beating his rival seven times.

Jansher, beaten in the second round in Paris last year by New Zealand's Stuart Davenport, had indicated he would miss the French Open this year but his manager persuaded the player and his coach to participate. International Squash Players' Association (ISPA) sources said.

The Paris organisers expect the top 20 men and all the leading women, except injured Briton Suzanne Burgess, at the tournament from March 8 to 13.

New Zealander Sue Devoy will defend the women's title she won last year for the third successive time.

The tournament will again be played under the American rules which operated in 1987 at the French, Canadian and U.S. Opens.

AMMAN LITTLE LEAGUE Basketball Standings

Junior teams	Pts	Mids-1 team	Pts
Dorma	6	NECC	4
Arab Bank	2	Ishtial	4
Nash/EBB	2	Intercon	2
Samar	2	EEE	1
Astra	0	Danish Dairy	1
Mids-2 teams	Pts	Senior teams	Pts
Jor-Exp	4	France Lait	4
Furukawa	4	JWM	4
Marriott	2	Al-Ahlyah	2
NEP	2	La Vache Qui Rit	2
GEMT	0	Westinghouse	0

Results of Friday's Games

Juniors			
Dorma 14	vs.	Nash/EBB 4	
Samar 21	vs.	Astra 18	
Mids-1			
Intercon 20	vs.	EEE 2	
Ishtial 18	vs.	Danish Dairy 12	
Mids-2			
NEP 24	vs.	Marriott 28	
Furukawa 37	vs.	GEMT 25	
Seniors			
La Vache Qui Rit 33	vs.	Al-Ahlyah 22	
Westinghouse 12	vs.	JWM 37	

High fliers to get Mercedes

STUTTGART, West Germany

(R) — The only indoor appearance of the season by Carl Lewis and a determined attack on the world best in the pole vault figure to be the high points of the athletics "world meeting" here Sunday.

Organisers have splashed out 600,000 marks (\$360,000) to attract a field including 10 world champions for what may be the top indoor athletics meeting of the season.

Competition will be at its fiercest in the pole vault where a special incentive is offered — a Mercedes car if the world indoor best of 5.97 metres set by Sergei Bubka of the Soviet Union is broken.

Bubka himself, who last year set his seventh indoor world record of 6.03 metres, will be leading the way.

The world champion will face serious contenders in Brother Vassili, second behind him in the 1986 European Championships, and former world record holder Thierry Vigneron of France, the silver medalist at last year's

World Championships.

Four times Olympic gold medalist Lewis begins his preparations for this summer's Seoul Games by running in the 200 metres. The American is at the centre of controversy since alleging on British television this week that American and British athletes had died through taking drugs.

The race marks Lewis's sole appearance of the indoor season, ruling out any chance of a duel with Canadian Ben Johnson, who shattered the world 100 metres record when he beat Lewis in the final at the Rome World Championships.

Johnson arrives in West Germany next week for indoor meetings in Sindelfingen and Karlsruhe.

Among other stars on view at Stuttgart's Hanns-Martin-Schleyer stadium will be world 200 metres champion Calvin Smith of the United States and Bulgarian Stefka Kostadinova, world record holder in the women's high jump.

Tyson named boxer of the year

NEW YORK (AP) — Mike Tyson, who made the second

defence of his undisputed heavyweight title last Friday night by knocking out Larry Holmes, was named boxer of the year for 1987 by the World Boxing Council Wednesday.

The 21-year-old Tyson, 33-0 with 29 knockouts, unified the title by beating Tony Tucker for the International Boxing Federation title last Aug. 1 with a 12-round decision. In all, Tyson fought four times in 1987, also beating Boncrusher Smith, Pinklon Thomas and Tyrell Biggs.

Tyson knocked out Holmes, for 7½ years the heavy weight champion, the fourth round in Atlantic City, New Jersey, and he will next fight Tony Tubbs March 21 in Tokyo.

The Sugar Ray Leonard-Marvelous Marvin Hagler mid-

dweight title fight last April 6 in Las Vegas, Nevada, was voted the fight of the year. Leonard came out of retirement and scored a disputed 12-round decision over Hagler to win the title.

Leonard, who retired again after the fight, was in New York to receive the award at a luncheon, but WBC president Jose Sulaiman said Hagler was in California making a movie.

"I want to thank Jose Sulaiman and the WBC for allowing me to fulfill a dream, to fight Marvin Hagler," Leonard said, adding with a smile: "Jose, who knows, maybe I'll need you again."

Hagler initially protested the results of the split decision, then withdrew the protest. Promoter Bob Arum has been trying to draw Hagler out of retirement for a rematch against the current middleweight champion, Thomas Hearns. Hagler stopped Hearns in the third round of an April 15, 1985 World middleweight bout.

Hagler's attorney said earlier this week that his client has no immediate plans come out of retirement.

Connors back into Italian tourney

MILAN (AP) — American tennis veteran Jimmy Connors, entering an Italian competition for the first time in six years, is among the top-ranking players battling for a \$70,000 first prize in the Stella Artois Indoor Tournament at Milan's Palatrussardi arena Feb. 15-21.

Organisers told a news conference Thursday that the 35-year-old player, the best American in the world rankings — in fifth place — is likely to be the No. 2 seed in the \$500,000 tournament, a Nabisco Grand Prix circuit event.

West Germany's Boris Becker, the winner of last year's edition and ranked fourth in the world, will be the top seed.

Other prominent entries in the 32-player tournament include American John McEnroe, return-

ing to Europe after several months, Wimbledon champion Pat Cash of Australia, Miloslav Mecir of Czechoslovakia, Yannick Noah and Henri Leconte of France, Claudio Mezzadri of Switzerland and Swedes Joakim Nyström, Jonas Svensson and Jan Gunnarsson. Andrei Chesnokov is the only Soviet entry.

No. 1 ranked Ivan Lendl of Czechoslovakia and Swede Mats Wilander, recent winner of the Australian Open, will not compete in Milan.

The last time Connors performed in Italy, in 1982, he lost the final of the Milan tournament to Guillermo Vilas of Argentina.

Bob Bruloot, chairman of Stella Artois, said that the Belgian beer maker plans to continue its commercial sponsorship of the Milan tournament through 1993.

Thai boxer ready to defend title

OSAKA, Japan (R) — Thailand's Sot Chitalada is full of confidence heading into the sixth defence of his World Boxing Council (WBC) flyweight title against Hideaki Kamishiro of Japan Sunday.

Chitalada, whose punching power has produced nine knockouts, has lost once in 15 fights. Asked about Kamishiro at a press conference, Chitalada predicted a knockout by the middle stages of the scheduled 12-round bout.

Kamishiro, however, has a punch of his own — six of his seven victories have come within the distance.

The flyweight match will be followed by a WBC Straw-Weight Championship bout between holder Hiroki Ioka of Japan and challenger Lee Kyong-Yon of South Korea.

Lee, the International Boxing Federation mini-flyweight champion, also predicted early victory.

Wednesday's only consolation was their £250,000 (£445,000) share of gate receipts from the

protracted tie which was watched by more than 142,000 fans.

Spain, E. Germany draw

VALENCIA (R) — Spain's old hands failed to capitalise on their overwhelming territorial advantage and were held to a goalless draw by East Germany in a soccer friendly Wednesday.

The Spanish have yet to score against the East Germans in a full international. Their two previous meetings, both in 1980, ended in a goalless draw and a 1-0 win for the Germans.

Spain, playing the first of six warm-up matches for the European Championship finals in June, did manage to get the ball in the net twice. But Manuel Sanchez was judged offside when Jose Bakero netted in the 30th minute and Julio Salinas was penalised for handball when he scored after 52 minutes.

Their best effort came from Sanchez midway through the second half, his header forcing goalkeeper Rene Muller into a brilliant diving save.

East Germany, missing injured striker Andreas Thom, had their only real chance in the second minute when Thomas Doll shot

wide after goalkeeper Andoni Zubizarreta had fumbled a shot at goal.

Coventry hopes to ease German tips

LONDON (R) — Holders Coventry hope to apply a few tips they picked up from West German First Division club Hamburg when they meet reviving Watford in an English Football Association (F.A.) Cup fourth round tie Saturday.

Coventry and Hamburg shared training facilities near Malaga in Southern Spain for several days this week as both clubs escaped for a break from Northern Europe's winter.

Coventry manager John Sillett said: "We have been learning from each other."

Sillett will pick his team to meet fellow English First Division strugglers Watford Friday, but he has hinted there will be no room for club record signing David Speedie.

The Scottish international striker, signed from Chelsea for £800,000 (\$1.4 million) last year, has missed two matches through suspension and his deputy Dave Bennett has scored three goals.

Jansher, Jahangir to clash in French Open squash meet

PARIS (R) — World number one Jansher Khan and his predecessor Jahangir Khan are set to clash in the French Open squash tournament in Paris in March, the organisers said Friday.

World champion Jansher defeated fellow-Pakistani Jahangir, who won his fifth French Open title last year, at the top of the world rankings at the turn of the

year after beating his rival seven times.

Jansher, beaten in the second round in Paris last year by New Zealand's Stuart Davenport, had indicated he would miss the French Open this year but his manager persuaded the player and his coach to participate. International Squash Players' Association (ISPA) sources said.

The Paris organisers expect the top 20 men and all the leading women, except injured Briton Suzanne Burgess, at the tournament from March 8 to 13.

New Zealander Sue Devoy will defend the women's title she won last year for the third successive time.

The tournament will again be played under the American rules which operated in 1987 at the French, Canadian and U.S. Opens.

THE GOETHE INSTITUTE - AMMAN

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2. Course on bibliography studies (bibliotheksgesprache) for those with very good command of German. From Feb. 8 - May 30, 1988. Please call at the institute at 8:00 p.m., Monday Feb. 8, 1988.

For further information please call tel: 641993

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THE UNTOUCHABLES

Performances 3, 10, 6, 10, 8, 10, 10, 30

الدليل

Jordan, Iraq sign financial accord

Banking centre to be set up in Amman

Deposits increase at banks in Jordan

Japanese discuss ties with Jordanians

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY, JANUARY 31, 1988

From the Carroll Richter Institute

surprise entertainment with a group of friends will help to pick up your spirits and get you out of that bad mood you've been in lately.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Stay around close friends who can be of help to you today, but don't be so close to your own home with your mate tonight.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Avoid a condescending person who will not only bore you, but will also irritate you to the point of anger. Help out a friend who is in need.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Be more concerned with your personal

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100	101	102	103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118	119	120	121	122	123	124	125	126	127	128	129	130	131	132	133	134	135	136	137	138	139	140	141	142	143	144	145	146	147	148	149	150	151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158	159	160	161	162	163	164	165	166	167	168	169	170	171	172	173	174	175	176	177	178	179	180	181	182	183	184	185	186	187	188	189	190	191	192	193	194	195	196	197	198	199	200	201	202	203	204	205	206	207	208	209	210	211	212	213	214	215	216	217	218	219	220	221	222	223	224	225	226	227	228	229	230	231	232	233	234	235	236	237	238	239	240	241	242	243	244	245	246	247	248	249	250	251	252	253	254	255	256	257	258	259	260	261	262	263	264	265	266	267	268	269	270	271	272	273	274	275	276	277	278	279	280	281	282	283	284	285	286	287	288	289	290	291	292	293	294	295	296	297	298	299	300	301	302	303	304	305	306	307	308	309	310	311	312	313	314	315	316	317	318	319	320	321	322	323	324	325	326	327	328	329	330	331	332	333	334	335	336	337	338	339	340	341	342	343	344	345	346	347	348	349	350	351	352	353	354	355	356	357	358	359	360	361	362	363	364	365	366	367	368	369	370	371	372	373	374	375	376	377	378	379	380	381	382	383	384	385	386	387	388	389	390	391	392	393	394	395	396	397	398	399	400	401	402	403	404	405	406	407	408	409	410	411	412	413	414	415	416	417	418	419	420	421	422	423	424	425	426	427	428	429	430	431	432	433	434	435	436	437	438	439	440	441	442	443	444	445	446	447	448	449	450	451	452	453	454	455	456	457	458	459	460	461	462	463	464	465	466	467	468	469	470	471	472	473	474	475	476	477	478	479	480	481	482	483	484	485	486	487	488	489	490	491	492	493	494	495	496	497	498	499	500	501	502	503	504	505	506	507	508	509	510	511	512	513	514	515	516	517	518	519	520	521	522	523	52
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The Reagan administration feels the IDA no longer needs financial support from its parent to fulfil its role of making long-term loans to the poorest countries at low interest rates, the sources said.

IDA finances basic food and health programmes in many bit terly poor countries, notably in Africa, so halting the profit transfers might be viewed by the public as tantamount to refusing to donate to the Red Cross, one source said.

World Bank sources said the development agency's largest shareholders had all but agreed to provide \$75 billion in new capital. "It's basically in the bag," one source said.

World Bank President Barber Conable has said the executive board will study final proposals on the capital increase Feb. 16.

The World Bank needs more capital to keep increasing its lending to developing countries as envisaged under U.S. Treasury Secretary James Baker's plan for easing the debt burden on de-

TOKYO (Agencies)—Japan has begun to study the possibility of a free trade pact linking the United States and Asia as a way to end economic friction, but officials and economists agree any such plan will face serious obstacles.

"We would like to look into the possibility of making more appropriate cooperative and constructive relationships with Asian and Pacific nations, including eventually some sort of free trade pact," Hisashi Hosokawa, director of international economic affairs at the ministry of international trade and industry, said in

an interview.

The Pacific nations he referred to included Australia and the United States.

"But we can foresee many difficulties in implementation," he added.

The notion of a U.S.-Japan free trade pact gained momentum after a similar arrangement was concluded last October between the United States and Canada.

Under the U.S.-Canada pact, the two nations agreed to open their markets fully to each others' products by such steps as eliminating bilateral tariffs within 10

WASHINGTON (R) — The Federal Reserve Board (Fed), the U.S. central bank, proposed stricter capital requirements for banks that it said would strengthen the world banking system and help American banks compete overseas.

Banks are required to keep capital on hand in proportion to their assets to cushion against financial shocks, but regulators round the world set different capital levels.

The proposal by the Fed closely follows one negotiated by 12 leading industrial nations, including the United States, in Basle, Switzerland, and published in December. The Basle agreement would end many differences in regulation of banks round the world.

The Fed proposal would for the first time relate banks' capital adequacy to the credit risk of their real assets. Some of these assets are risky but do not appear on bank's balance sheets, such as letters of credit, foreign exchange contracts and interest rate swaps.

"This is a history-making proposal. Banking around the world will change for the better," Fed Governor Robert Heller told a meeting of the central bank's board.

The proposal would require banks to have minimum capital of eight per cent of assets by the end of 1992, compared with the current six per cent.

In addition, half of the capital must be stockholders' equity.

LONDON (R) — Shares were firm in modest afternoon trading, with prices rallying from mid-afternoon in line with a strong opening in New York. The FTSE 100 index at 1542 GMT was up 7.1 to 1,791 but had slipped to 1,787.8 after Bank of England Governor Robin Leigh-Pemberton said U.K. interest rates might have to rise. Leigh-Pemberton said monetary conditions might have to be tightened as well to contain inflationary pressures. But the market recovered and gained ground after Wall Street moved ahead on a perception there that a rallying U.S. bond market could mean U.S. interest rates might be about to decline.

The FTSE 100 is now in a position to threaten the 1,800 point level which many analysts agree could be a key resistance point. If that level is decisively breached the FTSE could have the potential to rise to the next resistance level of 1,965.

Institutions have recently been seen as wary of putting cash taken out of the market in the wake of the October world share collapse back into equities while the outlook appears uncertain.

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Friday.

One Sterling	1.7700/10	U.S. dollar
One U.S. dollar	1.2750/60	Canadian dollar
	1.6750/60	Deutschmarks
	1.8821/31	Dutch guilders
	1.3638/48	Swiss francs
	34.98/35.02	Belgian francs
	5.6400/50	French francs
	1233/1234	Italian lire
	127.77/87	Japanese yen
	6.0150/0200	Swedish crowns
	6.3650/3700	Norwegian crowns
	6.4075/4125	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	462.50/463.00	U.S. dollars

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Sam Fink

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq has rescheduled its foreign debts and has no urgent need to collect more than a billion dollars it is owed, Trade Minister Mohammad Mahdi Saleh said Thursday.

Iraq's total debts at more than \$50 billion. Mahdi described the reports as exaggerated but declined to give a figure.

He said several countries, which he did not name, together owed Iraq more than a billion dollars in credits extended before the war with Iran began in September 1980.

But he said the economy was strong and had not been seriously affected by the war.

"Iraq is not pressing hard on them to repay the credits," he said.

On future prospects, he said: "A number of states have approached Iraq with more trade facilities, with a grace period extended to about seven years."

Countries which had signed economic agreements with Baghdad in the past few months in-

own overseas accounts had imported goods worth more than \$600 million over the past three years.

Any citizen was permitted to do likewise, he said, adding: "This also applies to Arab investors and without any restrictions."

He described the measures as "part of the government's move to get rid of the critical chains in the socialist (public) sector and move to the cooperative and private sectors."

He said the import quota for private businessmen had been increased by 80 per cent in this year's trade plan.

MOGADISHU (R) — Somalia said Thursday it was temporarily suspending its agreement with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to ease controls on prices and food sales and dismantle money-losing state firms.

The move will not ease tough conditions from any organisation," Finance Minister Abdurahman Jama Barre told a news conference in Mogadishu.

He said a technical committee would review the accord.

Somalia's commitment to the programme won it about \$250 million a year in aid funds from Italy, the United States, the World Bank and other donors.

He added: "We formally sus-

the Somali shilling had fallen to record lows while inflation rose to record highs.

The minister, who moved from the foreign ministry in December, said the government was imposing a series of austerity measures to get the Somali economy back on its feet.

These included cuts in government spending, restrictions on imports and unspecified measures to encourage exports, he added.

The 1968 budget approved by parliament last Saturday cuts government spending by two billion shillings (\$20 million) to 15.8 billion (\$158 million) from 17.8 billion (\$178 million) in calendar 1987.

DAMMAM (OPECNA) — The Saudi Arabian Fertilizer Company (SAFCO) made a profit of \$34.17 million in 1987, an increase of around 2.4 per cent over that of a year earlier.

According to the company's manager Hussein Al Jubeihi, a substantial increase in the consumption, of over 205,000 tonnes of urea, was achieved domestically.

In addition, about 181,000 tonnes of the material, from the Jubail fertilizer company, was also consumed in the same year.

Early this month, SAFCO's statistical report said the company produced over 343,000 tonnes of urea, of which about 298,000 tonnes were exported last year.

The report added that more than 16,000 tonnes of melamine were also produced by the company.

A cartoon illustration by Harris. On the left, a woman with a large, curly afro hairstyle is shown from the chest up, wearing a dark top. She is holding a credit card in her right hand and looking towards a man behind a counter. The man, on the right, has a large, bulbous nose and is wearing a light-colored, button-down shirt. He is holding a credit card in his right hand and looking at the woman. Behind him is a sign that says 'SALE!'. The cartoon is signed 'HARRIS' in the top right corner. At the bottom center, it says '© 1987 Cuckoo Syndicate, Inc.'

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

LIDAP

UMBOX

TRYDAW

PERMAC

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: _____ IT _____

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: STAID NOISY DURESS PLAQUE
 Answer: Another name for that old-time harem—
 THE "LASS ROUNDUP"

A cartoon illustration of a woman with extremely wild, spiky hair. She is standing in a room, looking into a mirror on the wall. To her right is a dresser with a lamp and some bottles. The scene is drawn in a simple, expressive style.

Carlucci seeking smaller but well-equipped military

DAYTON, Ohio (R) — The 1989 U.S. defence budget will aim for a smaller but well-equipped military and hopefully pave the way for stable funding of future weapons programmes, Defence Secretary Frank Carlucci has said.

Carlucci said that in the face of \$33 billion in defence cuts ordered by Congress, he favours quality military personnel and sufficient weapons, even if it means a cut in the size of the military force.

"What we are trying to do in the defence budget this year is lay it out over a period of time at a level that we think will be politically sustainable and hope that we can pull the Congress on board for the long term," he told reporters during a luncheon appearance here.

Carlucci said he does not believe the military services are as reluctant to develop unmanned "smart" weapons as published reports have charged.

He said he was pushing development of even better cruise missiles and other weapons that could be fired from afar and then guide themselves to pre-selected targets.

"I'm concerned that the necessary investments in the defence

industrial base are not being made," Carlucci added.

"Based on my conversations with a number of defence contractors, I am finding that they are not ploughing back their profits into productivity investments."

He blamed that partly on contractors' inability to predict funding for research and development programmes from one year to the next.

He attacked Congress, but refused to confirm or deny reports that the air force's anti-satellite (ASAT) weapon is one programme facing the axe in the 1989 budget, which will go to Congress next month.

"For three years the Defence Department, the president, has requested authorisation to test ASAT... and for three years running, the Congress has refused us authority to test that weapon," he said.

"After a certain period of time, when you can't test that weapon,

you have to question the utility of that weapon. Without predicting whether it will be in or out of the budget, it's not the administration that's backing off of the weapon. It's the Congress."

The U.S. Air Force Logistics Command plans to lay off as many as 80,000 civilian workers for up to 10 days each year to save \$300 million, air force officials said Thursday.

Officials at the Pentagon and Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, Ohio, headquarters of the Logistics Command, told Reuters the unpaid layoffs were part of a major effort to cut U.S. military spending.

The Logistics Command employs more than 80,000 people, most of them civilians, and spokeswoman Mynda McGuire said the planned layoffs would affect most workers.

"The army announced last week it would cut its planned \$60 billion LHX helicopter programme in half."

Pentagon officials have told Reuters the army, air force and Marines plan manpower cuts, and published reports have said the air force may cancel its "Midgetman" single-warhead mobile nuclear missile and the navy will turn out fewer ships in 1989.

S. Africans threaten 3 Angolan towns

LUANDA (R) — Angola said Friday that South African planes and artillery launched over 40 attacks in southern Angola between Jan. 14 and 26, threatening government positions around three towns.

U.S. envoy Chester Crocker meanwhile conferred in Luanda with Angolan government officials on ways of achieving independence for South African-controlled Namibia, from where the South African forces are launching their raids into Angola.

A Defence Ministry spokesman said South African forces, backed by Mirage fighters, AML-90, Buffalo and Kasper armoured cars and equipped with G-5 and G-6 long-range Howitzers, had kept Angolan troops under pressure in the three southern provinces of Cuando Cubango, Huila and Cunene.

They had attacked Cuito Cuanavale in Cuando Cubango, Chibemba in Huila and Ondjiva in Cunene, three towns that form part of Angola's front line of defence against invading South African forces in the south.

The spokesman gave no details of casualties on either side.

Western diplomats said the continuing fighting was likely to hamper Crocker's efforts to obtain from the Angolans a commitment to allow an estimated 35,000 Cuban troops stationed in Angola to leave.

Most of the Cubans occupy a defensive line stretching inland from the port of Namibe, about 200 kilometres north of the Namibian frontier.

The Defence Ministry spokesman said South African troops, acting in support of Angolan rebels of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA), were carrying out raids "over a wide area deep inside Angola" with the intention of surrounding and capturing several positions.

He gave no details but Angolan military spokesmen have already reported that South African Special Forces and UNITA rebels are occupying the town of Munhango, on the strategic Benguela Railway Line in the central province of Bie.

The town, 380 kilometres north of the Namibian frontier, was recently captured by UNITA although government spokesmen have sought to play down its significance, saying that rail traffic on that part of the line had not been running for several years.

Bomb damages Windhoek store after Strauss visit

WINDHOEK, South-West Africa (Agencies) — A bomb explosion has damaged a store at an army base shortly after conservative West German politician Franz Josef Strauss arrived on a visit denounced by the main independence movement.

Journalists said the blast ignited, a large fire at a store at the Suiderhof Army Base, a few kilometres from Strauss' hotel in downtown Windhoek. No injuries were reported, and there was no immediate information about the type of explosive involved or who might have been responsible.

Police said the bomb contained no more than 1 kilogramme of explosives and went off after the store closed at 5 p.m. (1500 GMT).

Strauss' visit to the South African-ruled territory, also known as Namibia, has been protested by the South West African People's Organisation (SWAPO), which since 1966 has waged a political and military campaign for independence.

Strauss said after his arrival that SWAPO had threatened bombings aimed at German business interests in Namibia. At his hotel, he encountered more than 100 pro-SWAPO demonstrators.

Earlier Namibian police announced they had arrested 43 people in nationwide raids connected with alleged guerrilla activities by SWAPO.

A powerful car bomb wrecked a shopping centre in Windhoek last July, but there were no deaths.

Norway, Sweden plan aid for Mozambican projects

ARUSHA, Tanzania (AP) — Norway and Sweden are planning aid to defend development projects in Mozambique from rebels, delegates said at a conference where Western donors praised the Southern African Development Coordination Conference (SADCC).

"SADCC is one of the most effective responses to South Africa's policies to systematically disrupt trade and economic growth in SADCC countries," Canadian Foreign Minister Joe Clark said in a keynote address that echoed

praise from other donor nations, including the Soviet Union and Britain.

Clark is on an eight-day Africa tour that will take him to Lusaka, Zambia, to chair the first Commonwealth Committee of Foreign Ministers to fight apartheid.

He promised "to seek to ensure that the Commonwealth strategy of pressuring South Africa to make fundamental changes is reinforced through the widening, tightening and intensification of sanctions."

Broken remains of crashed S. African Jumbo Jet found

PORT LOUIS, Mauritius (AP) — The broken remains of a South African Airways Jumbo Jet that crashed in November, killing all 159 people aboard, was found Friday at a depth of 14,400 feet (4,268 metres) in the Indian Ocean, the U.S. embassy said.

The embassy said it had received a report from a U.S. Navy captain who heads the team help-

ing the South African searchers with special sonar scanning and photographic equipment.

The experts aboard the South African ship "Omega 801" have been searching for the plane more than 100 miles (160 kilometres) north of Mauritius, an island nation 1,600 miles north east (2,560 kilometres) of South Africa.

Colombia arrests 2 suspects in attorney general's murder

MEDELLIN, Colombia (AP) — Two brothers suspected of belonging to the gang that kidnapped and killed Colombia's attorney general have been arrested, police said.

Police say drug traffickers killed Attorney General Carlos Hoyos after threatening to plunge Colombia into a "bloodbath" and pledging to kill anyone who tried to extradite them to the United States.

A police officer, who asked not to be identified, said Alejandro Duque Erazo, 19, and his brother, Gilson Duque Erazo, 21, were arrested Thursday without incident at a hotel in Medellin. He said they had been at the hotel for a week.

The police officer said the two are suspected of being members of the gang that killed Hoyos.

Poll shows Bush-Rather clash was a draw

WASHINGTON (AP) — The shouting match between Vice President George Bush and television anchorman Dan Rather ended in a draw as far as the public was concerned, according to a new Gallup poll.

Among 642 people polled by telephone Wednesday, the split was even, 44 per cent to 44 per cent on the question of whether Bush was treated fairly in the live interview by Rather on a CBS Television Network news programme Monday night.

The two men tangled in the on-air interview over Bush's role in the Iran-contra affair. Although only 29 per cent said they saw the interview or news coverage of it, 78 per cent said

they had heard about it, according to the poll done for the Times Mirror Co.

Among other data, it showed a decline in Bush's overall favourability ratings from 69 per cent in September to 52 and a rise in that period in those who view him unfavourably from 17 per cent to 40 per cent.

The drop, according to the poll, was matched by lower ratings for Bush's principal rival in the Republican Party U.S. presidential nomination contest, Sen. Bob Dole of Kansas. Dole's ratings declined from 67 per cent favourable in September to 50 per cent and his unfavourable rating rose from 15 per cent to 25 per cent.

Rebels kill Filipino lawman

MANILA (Agencies) — Suspected Communist rebels shot and killed a policeman in a provincial capital Friday, and the military said Communist "death squads" were deployed on Luzon Island to hunt supporters of a rival Marxist group.

Police said three gunmen opened fire on patrolman Joe Carino, 31, as he returned to his home in Bacolod City, 480 kilometres south east of Manila. Carino, a member of the intelligence unit of the Integrated National Police, was the fifth lawman gunned down this month in Bacolod City.

In San Fernando, 60 kilometres north of Manila, the military said "death squads" organised by remnants of the Huk guerrillas have been deployed in Pampanga province to hunt down and kill politicians supported by the rival New People's Army (NPA).

Col. Alberto Quaiat, Philippine Constabulary commander for Pampanga province, said Huk units had been seen in the towns of Mexico and Santa Ana. People believed on the "death list" had been notified and offered protection, he said.

The Huks waged an unsuccessful rebellion in the 1950s and 1960s after playing a major role in Philippine resistance against the Japanese in World War II.

In 1969, a breakaway faction led by Bernabe Buscayno founded the New People's Army, the armed wing of the Maoist Communist Party of the Philippines, and launched the present Marxist

20 hurt in U.S. train derailment

CHESTER, Pennsylvania (AP) — An Amtrak train carrying about 130 people struck a work train and derailed 25 kilometres south of Philadelphia early Friday, injuring at least 20 people, authorities said.

There were no fatalities reported. Most of the injuries were apparently minor.

The two engines and 10 cars of Amtrak's No. 66 Night Owl derailed after hitting a locomotive and at least one flatcar, with one locomotive falling down an embankment, Chester police said.

"The coaches and sleepers are all upright and in line, but they are derailed," said Amtrak spokesman John Jacobsen. He said two engines and two baggage cars were on their sides.

The Night Owl was en route from Washington to Boston via Philadelphia, said Amtrak Superintendent of Operations Pat Meade.

The accident closed all four tracks on the Washington-Boston rail corridor out of service, but Jacobsen said one line would reopen Friday in the morning.

Ted Lopatkievicz, a spokesman for the National Transportation Safety Board in Washington, said an investigation team was being assembled and would arrive at the site later Friday.

COLUMNS 768

'Crocodile Dundee' gets naked co-stars

NISKAYUNA, New York (R) — Police are searching for a video renter who has added a personal sex show to the ending of films like Crocodile Dundee and Tin Men. "There's been lots of joking about it from customers. They'll say, 'gee, I never get that lucky.' But I'll tell you, it's a real nuisance," the owner of the video store where the films were returned told Reuters. "Right after the credits at the end you'd see a man and a woman involved in various sexual acts for about 10 minutes in full colour," detective Sergeant Mark Sollohub told Reuters. It must have been a renter who added it. "We first got a report on this back in October from Creative Video. Since then they have destroyed their copies of Crocodile Dundee and Sword of Gideon. "We have two other films in police custody as evidence. One is called Water and the other is called Cold Sweat. Our department is investigating but we have no leads so far." Creative Video's owner, Bob Believe, reported the affair after receiving a complaint from a man who rented Crocodile Dundee. We have 11,000 movies, Believe told Reuters. "What we're doing now is taking the top 100 and tracing all the people who rented them. Eventually we'll come up with the guy who's doing this."

40 held in child pornography swoop

LONDON (R) — British customs officers have said they had arrested 40 men and seized more than 80 pornographic videos featuring children as young as three as part of investigations into a major international pornography ring. French customs officers arrested a man believed to be the leader of a mail-order pornography ring based in Rouen, France, after the videos were seized at the parcel post depot in the southern English port of Dover. "All showed child pornography involving adults and boys and girls aged three to 14, a British customs official told Reuters. Customs officers made the arrests throughout Britain between November and December 1987 after following up the addresses on the seized parcels. The official said news of the arrests was delayed until now to give customs agents more time to pursue the investigation.

Police storm polygamist family

MARION, Utah (R) — Police have stormed the log cabin home of a polygamist family, ending a 13-day siege in a hail of gunfire that left one policeman dead and a family leader critically wounded. Policemen in battle fatigues, supported by two armoured personnel carriers, raced across the snow-covered fields into the cabin for the Western-style showdown. They moved after family leader Addam Swapp, wanted for the bombing of a local Mormon church, declared the ranch home a "free independence nation." As the gunfire died away, family members, including six children, ran out of the cabin with their hands held high in the air. The 27-year-old Swapp, shot in the chest, was flown by helicopter to a Salt Lake City hospital.

Cash prizes proposed for inventions

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan will ask Congress to set up a \$10-million fund for cash prizes to inventors of new technologies aimed at improving the quality of life, the White House has announced. Spokesman Martin Fitzwater told reporters each prize could be worth hundreds of thousands of dollars if Congress approves Reagan's proposal in the 1989 financial year budget he is due to submit next month. Fitzwater said the prizes, to be named after inventor Thomas Edison, would be open to all U.S. residents who could "develop technologies that could improve quality of life in this nation and the world." He said the main aim of the proposal was to spur "inventors to apply their skills to areas in which there is great public benefit, but not necessarily strong market reward."

Unknown Van Gogh found in Netherlands

THE HAGUE (R) — A previously unknown painting by Vincent Van Gogh has been discovered in the home of an elderly woman in the northern Dutch town of Groningen, an auctioneer has said. The painting, of a man holding a bouquet of flowers, had hung in the woman's living room for years, auctioneer Joop Van Den Enden said. The owner, whose doctor father acquired the painting in Rotterdam in the 1910s, has asked to remain anonymous. The 14 centimetre by 21 centimetre (7 inch by 10 inch) oil painting is signed "Vincent" in an upper left corner and carries a French inscription on the back by a tenege Gustav saying it is an authentic Van Gogh. "We are trying to find out who tenege Gustav was and have notified all possible interested museums of the painting. They can come and see it to decide for themselves if it is authentic," an aide to Van Den Enden told Reuters.

China calls for regular AIDS tests

PEKING (R) — China's leading AIDS researcher has called for regular blood tests and strict suppression of prostitution to protect the country's one billion people from the fatal disease. Zeng Yi said the greatest danger of contracting the disease for Chinese people was through casual sex with foreigners, the New China News Agency reported Friday. Such relations "are increasing with the influx of more foreign businessmen, students and tourists in recent years," Zeng was quoted as saying. "Since China has now stopped importing blood products, the most likely way of contracting acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) is through casual behaviour," he said. China should start regular, large-scale blood testing as soon as possible, Zeng, head of China's only AIDS research group, advised.

Iran repossesses Shah's 2 cars

CREWE, England (AP) — Iran has repossessed two vintage Rolls-Royce cars that the late Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi sent to England for repair a year before he was toppled from power in 1979. Rolls-Royce Motor Cars Ltd. has said the High Court of Justice in London ruled last week in favour of turning over to the Islamic Revolutionary government in Tehran a 1922 Silver Shadow and an Armour-plated, 1956 Phantom 4. The cars, said by Iran to have a combined value of about \$880,000, were sent by the Shah to Rolls-Royce's factory in Crewe, Central England, in 1978. The cars have remained at the factory pending clarification of their ownership since the Shah's downfall, said company spokesman Peter Rawlinson. "They are ready for the road," Rawlinson said. "All we're doing now is awaiting delivery instructions." The Iranian embassy in London could not say when the cars would be returned to Iran.

Rats eat baby

HONG KONG (R) — Rats killed and ate a baby boy who was left alone at home by his parents in south China, the Canton Evening Post said. The newspaper said in its Tuesday edition, which reached Hong Kong Wednesday, that the one-month-old baby was found dead and partly devoured when his peasant parents returned home from work.

Dog trapped in crevice freed

MERTHYR TYDFIL, Wales (AP) — A coal miner totting a rope and a ham sandwich freed Tuesday a 2-year-old terrier dog named Rocky which had been trapped for eight days about 12 metres down a narrow crevice on a Welsh mountain. Martin Townsend, 27, said he threw down the sandwich to lure the hungry dog into a noose he had lowered in the crevice, then hauled him up to the surface. Animal activists and local volunteers had drilled into the side of Brithdir Mountain near Merthyr Tydfil and removed 30 tonnes of rock and earth to get within 10 feet (3 metres) of the dog, which fell down the crevice while chasing rabbits.

Waldheim: Austrians did not report exact wartime records

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — Austrian President Kurt Waldheim, under investigation about his activities as an officer in the German army in World War II, says many Austrian leaders failed to report their exact wartime records.

"That was a custom in my country. Many other prominent leaders also didn't give an exact report of their military service," Waldheim said in an interview with syndicated journalist Ranan R. Lurie.

In the interview this week, of which a partial recording and transcript were made available to the Associated Press, Waldheim also said he participated in negotiations for the deportation of Italian prisoners of war from the Balkans.

The Italians were deported after Germany learned of plans by Italy to sign a separate armistice with the allies.

"We were told they would be sent back to their country" in negotiations between the Germans and the Italians in 1943, Waldheim said. In fact, the Italians — about 100,000 — were sent to German slave labour camps.

"Did you participate in those negotiations?" Lurie asked. "From time to time," Waldheim responded.

In his official rebuttal of the accusations against him, known as "the white book," Waldheim writes that his role in the negotiations was one of interpreter.

Basque rebels offer truce with stiff conditions

"No interpreter would describe himself as a participant in negotiations," said World Jewish Congress Executive Director Elan Steinberg. "This is a devastating admission on Waldheim's part."

The WJC has spearheaded a campaign since 1986 to discredit Waldheim for his alleged involvement in Nazi atrocities.

The former U.N. secretary-general consistently has denied any wrongdoing, although he has admitted omitting from his official English-language biography his service with a German intelligence unit in the Balkans between 1942 and 1945.

Asked whether he had killed or wounded anyone during his military service, Waldheim responded: "No, I didn't. On the Russian front, I can't remember."

Waldheim served in a cavalry unit at a combat zone on the Soviet front in 1941.

Waldheim was questioned Thursday in Vienna by an Austrian-appointed commission of six historians probing his wartime record.

The commission, which presents its report next month, was established last year after the Justice Department barred Waldheim from visiting the United States.

Commission Chairman Hans Rudolf Kurz, a Swiss military historian, told reporters the meeting at the president's official residence was "worthwhile, useful and not easy for Waldheim."

Basque rebels offer truce with stiff conditions

BILBAO, Spain (R) — The Basque guerrilla organisation ETA offered a truce for the first time Friday, but included stiff conditions that the Spanish government has rejected before.

ETA (Basque Homeland and Freedom) said it would discuss only a political solution to its bloody 20-year-old conflict and any final peace agreement would have to be based on its demands. These include self-determination for the Basque region in northern Spain.

The government has in the past rejected any political concession and said it would only discuss how the guerrillas laid down arms.

Officials said the government would not comment before studying ETA's lengthy communiqué published in the radical Basque newspaper Egin, its usual channel of communication.

The cabinet was expected to discuss the statement during a routine meeting later in the day.

Police said they defused a bomb planted in a policeman's car in Bilbao, a technique often used by ETA guerrillas who killed 52 people last year.

ETA said it was prepared to "observe a partial ceasefire for a period agreed by both sides and not exceeding 60 days."

Conditions of its truce offer were that police action against the organisation stop and that the Spanish government immediately resume negotiations, the ETA statement said.

Talks should be "of a political nature" with the expressed aim of "finding a negotiating framework to reach a negotiated political solution to the conflict," ETA said.

It said the truce would mean a "provisional end to executions (attacks) except in the case of random clashes, as a sign of willingness to talk."

Contacts between the government and ETA members exiled in Algeria were widely reported to have broken off last month after ETA killed 11 people in a car-bomb attack in the northern town of Saragossa.

There was no immediate reaction from the government to the truce offer. Officials said Thursday night they could not comment until they had seen the full ETA communiqué.

The government said last September that it had been making contacts with ETA members in Algeria. But it said it would discuss only the terms of a laying-down of arms and not ETA's political demands.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
1987-1988 World Series

HELP FROM A FRIEND			
North-South	Vulnerable	East	West
NORTH			
♠ K Q 8			
♥ 7 2			
♦ K Q J 5			
♣ 8 3 3			
WEST			
♠ 7 5 3			
♥ 6 4			
♦ 10 9 4			
♣ J 10 9 7 4			
SOUTH			
♠ 6 4 2			
♥ A K Q J 10 8			
♦ 7 2			
♣ K Q			
The bidding:			
East	South	West	North
1 NT	3	Pass	4
Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass
Opening lead: Jack of ♠			

Sometimes you just cannot utilize your resources to full advantage. That's the time to enlist the aid, albeit unwilling, of your opponents.

East-West were employing a weak no trump opening bid, showing 12-14 points. South's jump overall announced the equivalent of an opening bid and a good six-card suit, so North had no hesita-

tion in raising to game. East jumped up with the ace of clubs on his partner's opening lead of the jack, and found the excellent shift to the jack of spades. A seemingly easy contract suddenly was in jeopardy, because that took out North's side entry before the diamond suit could be established for a discard. West later was now in danger of losing two spade tricks in addition to the two minor-suit aces.

With great skill declarer mounted his counter-offensive. He won the spade in dummy and drew trumps; three rounds, taking care to discard a diamond from the table; the third club would be needed later. After cashing the king of clubs, he led a diamond to the jack East could not afford to win this trick, and declarer took advantage of his entry in dummy to ruff the remaining club. Now when he led a diamond to the queen, East had to win, but he was trapped.

Left with nothing but pointed suit cards (spades and diamonds), he was left with a Hobson's choice. No matter which suit he elected to return, he was forced to give declarer his fulfilling trick. South's second spade loser had vanished.

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